

**ASSR of CRIMEA
N K V D
STATE SECURITY DEPARTMENT**

Declassified 05 July 2011

CRIMINAL CASE

on the charge of FRISON, Alexander son of Johann and others.

Started: 10 October 1935

Complete: 25 July 1936

Volume **1**

75157-ФП

Pages 2-2back

DECISION

(Regarding of taking a measure for preventive punishment and bringing a charge)

10 October 1935

Simferopol

I, operation officer of 1st office of the Crimean UNKVD State Security Administration Special Department MOROZOV, having considered investigation materials on case №___ and having taken into account that FRISON, Alexander son of Johann, born in 1875, non-party, German by nationality, citizen of the USSR, single, bishop of Catholic church, native of the village of Baden, Odessa region, residing in Simferopol, is shown as having been in contact with foreign embassies, conducted counter-revolutionary espionage work i.e. in committing crimes specified in articles 58-6 and 58-10 of the Criminal Code,

H A V E D E C I D E D:

Institute criminal proceedings against FRISON, Alexander son of Johann as the one indicted by articles 58-6 and 58-10 of the Criminal Code and take a measure of suppression of ways to avoid investigation and trial – keeping under arrest at the UNKVD Special building.

*“Taking Frison, Alexander Johann into custody sanctioned.
Offer to let the Military Prosecutor know”.
The ASSR of Crimea Asst. Prosecutor on
special cases/signature/ 11 October .1935*

Special Department operation officer /*Morozov*/
“AGREE” Head of the 1st office /*Tutushkin*/
The UGB Asst. Head /*Yumankulov*/

This decision is announced to me on “29” *October 1935* Accused */Alexander Frison/*
Note

*Accused Frison, Alexander son of Johann was arrested on 15 October 1935 i.e. 4 days after getting the Prosecutor’s sanction.
16 October 1935 Operation officer /Morozov/*

“Re-accusation by articles 58-4, 58-10 and 58-11 announced” /A. Frison/

Page 3

WARRANT № 250 dated 10 October 1935 to search and arrest of Frison, Alexander son of Johann residing at Apt. 1, 24/14 Maxim Gorky St., Simferopol, Crimea.

Pages 4-5

SEARCH RECORD

15 October 1935

FRISON, Alexander son of Johann (Apt. 1, 24/14 Maxim Gorky St., Simferopol)

Witnesses present at a search – house-owner Novitsky, Ivan son of Jacov,
Frison, Magdalena daughter of Georg.

According to instructions given Frison, Alexander son of Johann is arrested.

LIST of things, values and documents of things confiscated

№	Items	Number	Quality state
1	Passport № 240559	1	
2	Kertch town soviet’s reference of 23.III.1935	1	
3	Crimea ASSR CEC reference of 22.7.1932	1	
4	Simferopol town soviet’s reference of 23.III.1935	1	
5	Reference re getting a passport	1	
6	ID given by Kertch town soviet	1	
7	Certificate of degree from Rome University	3	
8	Printed literature	38	
9	Illustrated German newspaper “Kolnische”	–	
10	Various personal and business correspondence	211 pgs	
11	Coupons and remittance receipts	16	
12	Addresses	18 pgs	
13	Correspondence in letters, cards and envelopes	120	
14	Various correspondence in pads and notebooks	45	
15	Photographs	137	
16	Maps	25	

17	Documents in blank envelope (3 Roubles attached)	—	
18	Four sheets with drawings	—	
19	Death certificate № 1195 (Simferopol ZAGS)	1	
20	Birth excerpt №41 (Zuyev village soviet)	1	
21	Note about V. Merinov's birth	1	
22	Document to the name of Parchely	1	
23	Crimean Catholic Academy 1901 syllabus	1	
24	Excerpt from the Registry Book	1	
25	Excerpt from the Notary's office	1	
26	Minutes of the Klement association	1	
27	1931 certificate to the name of Naugu	1	
28	Various notes	9	
29	Typed prayers	—	
30	Box with rivets	—	
31	Box with a seal and a relic	1	
32	Slide glasses	5	
33	Copper coin (royal coinage)	730 g	
34	Relic and documents associated (dated 30.X.1910)	1 box	
35	Various business-cards	2 boxes	
36	Photographs and post cards	13	
37-45	Pay-book	9	
46	Pay-notice	6	
47	Summons	1	
48	Certificate and subscription for a lamp radio set	8	
49-53	Money receipts and notices	8	
54	Income statement	1	

Complaints – none.

/Signatures/

Page 6

Receipt № 148 (on Alexander Frison's belongings according to the list).

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LIST of Gold items confiscated (attached to receipt № 148 mentioned):

1) 15-Rouble coins (royal coinage)	3	45 Roubles
2) 10-Rouble coins (royal coinage)	10	100 Roubles
3) 5-Rouble coins (1877 royal coinage)	1	5 Roubles
4) 5-Rouble coins (royal coinage)	29	145 Roubles

5) 20-Frank foreign coins	2	40 Franks
6) Foreign coin	1	20 Franks
7) 1867 foreign coin	1	20 Franks
8) 1863 foreign coins	2	40 Liras
9) 1894 coins	3	24 grams
10) Chain	1	21 grams
11) Bracelet	1	17 grams
12) Rings with 2 diamond stones	2	6 grams

Pages 8-10

Receipts (for Alexander Frison's belongings which have been confiscated):
 (... Copper coins of royal coinage: 2-Copeck – 32 pieces, 1-Copeck – 27 pieces ...)
 (... Box with various church items: relic – no value ...)
 (... socks, pants suspenders, pillow, shirt, bed-sheets, bowl, suitcase ...).

Pages 11-13

S T A T E M E N T

29 October 1935

... entered Alexander son of Johann FRISON's sealed apartment unlocked and made additional search inside ... the next articles of evidences were then withdrawn:

- 1) 2-lamp radio receiver
- 2) Rectifier with a tube
- 3) Switch, transformer and radio parts
- 4) 3 self-induction coils
- 5) Aerometer
- 6) 15A ammeter
- 7) Millivoltmeter
- 8) Wire for self-induction coils
- 9) Wire for transformer
- 10) Aerial rope and a cap

1. Radio receiver 2-V-O supplied with electricity directly from rectifier BO-116 ...
2. Separate measuring instruments, indicators, coils, transformers were found that can be used for making a low-powered short-wave transmitter ...

/Sealed and signed/

Pages 15-15back

SEARCH RECORD

25 November 1935

FRISON, Alexander son of Johann (Apt. 1, 24/14 Maxim Gorky St., Simferopol) ...

LIST of things confiscated (found buried under the porch)

№	Items	Number/value
1	American dollars	\$1,684
2	Britain pounds	£15
3	Soviet gold pieces	₽800
4	Soviet 1-Rouble silver coins	₽18
5	Soviet 50-Copeck silver coins	78
6	1-Rouble silver coins (royal coinage)	58
7	Foreign silver coins	24
8	Old silver coins (royal coinage)	15
9	50-Copeck silver coins (royal coinage)	4
10	5-Rouble golden coins (royal coinage)	6
11	10-Rouble golden coins (royal coinage)	2
12	Turkish golden coin	5
13	Golden wedding-rings	4
14	Golden ring with a big stone	1
15	Golden ring with a seal	1
16	Golden ring with two stones	1
17	Golden spider-like brooch	1
18	Golden ear-rings with stones	2
19	Golden cuff-links	2
20	Golden crosses	2
21	Golden cross with a stone	1
22	Golden hollow brooch	1
23	Italian golden order	1
24	Three links of golden chain	1
25	Golden brooch with a big stone	1
26	White stones	2
27	Golden women's watches	2
28	Golden women's watches with bracelets	1
29	Golden men's watches	2
30	Silver men's watch	1
31	Golden chains	5
32	Golden chain with stones	1
33	Golden bracelet	1
34	Golden cross	1
35	Big metal chain	1
36	Silver spoons	2
37	Metal badge	1

26 November 1935

FRISON, Alexander son of Johann (Apt. 1, 24/14 Maxim Gorky St., Simferopol) ...

LIST of values confiscated

Items	Number/value	Weight, grams
5-Rouble golden coins (royal coinage)	6 (30 Rb)	
10-Rouble golden coins (royal coinage)	2 (20 Rb)	
Tatar golden adornments	6	7
Golden wedding rings	4	28
Golden finger-ring	1	9
Golden ring with big quadrangular stone and small white ones around	1	20.5
Golden rings (one with one and another with two red single stones)	2	4.7
Large golden cross with 4 diamonds and 1 red stone	1	144
Golden crosses	3	13
Golden cross with 12 turquoise stones	1	2.5
Neck golden chains	4	105
Lapel yellow metal chains, one with pendant stone	2	61
Neck golden chain	1	153
Golden bracelet	1	18
Golden brooches ("spider" and wire with 2 stones)	2	6
Golden ear-rings	1 pair	5
Golden cuff-links	2	7
Yellow metal pendant with dark stone	1	2
Golden cross (white- and dark-enamelled)	1	8
Three links of yellow metal chain	1	1
White stones (diamond-like)	2	1.25
Men's golden striking watch № 156187	1	lid-covered
Men's golden open watch № 87611	1	with 2 lids
Women's golden covered watches: № 77882 and № 33808	2	one enameled
Women's golden open watch with a golden bracelet	1	№ 178864
Men's silver open watch № 28619	1	
American money:		
20-dollar bills	19 (\$380)	
50-dollar bills	16 (\$800)	

100-dollar bills	1 (\$100)	
10-dollar bills	12 (\$120)	
5-dollar bills	53 (\$265)	
2-dollar bills	6 (\$12)	
1-dollar bill	7 (\$7)	
Total:	\$1,684	
Britain money:		
10-pound bill	1 (£10)	
5-pound bill	1 (£5)	
10-shilling bill	1	
Silver cigarette-case	1	154
Gilt silver spoons	2	20
1877-1878 red metal cross	1	7
Metal breastplate	1	28
Silver coins (royal coinage)	62 (60 Rb)	
1764-1913 1-Rouble silver coins	12 (12 Rb)	
1818 50-Copeck silver coins	2 (1 Rb)	
10-Zloty silver coin	1 (1 ^{1/2} Rb)	
Foreign silver coins	17	338
Foreign white metal coins	3	31
Silver coins (Cross-Rouble, Elisavetha 50-Copecks and two 30-Zloty coins)	4 (2R 20C)	

26 November 1935, Simferopol
 Commandant /Shelgunov/

Pages 20-20back

FORM of the arrested

Name – FRISON, Alexander son of Johann
 Birth date and place – 1875, Baden (Odessa)
 Residence – 24/14 Maxim Gorky St., Simferopol
 Occupation (place of work) – Simferopol Catholic Church, clergyman (Bishop)
 Social origin – from villager-farmers
 Education – higher
 Being under investigation and trial – in 1923 was sentenced to 6 months (“church case”)
 State of health – good according to him
 Other members of family – niece; Frison, Magdalena daughter of Georg, 40 years old

Signature of the arrested /Frison/

When arrested – 15 October 1935

04 June 1936
Department
Reference

The Crimea ASSR NKVD

FRISON, Alexander son of Johann is disfranchised on 20 August 1930 by article 15-M (as a priest) ...

Pages 38-56

INVENTORY

List of property belonging to FRISON, Alecander son of Johann residing 24 Maxim Gorky St.

1. Big wall carpets – 2
2. One-and-a-half English bed with a mattress –
3. Feather bed – 1
4. Quilt with a cover – 1
5. Feather pillows – 5
6. Bed curtains (simple) – 2
7. Sewing-machine – 1
8. Sewing-machine casket – 1
9. Threads in bobbins and boxes – 14
10. Curtain for sewing-machine – 1
11. Small parts for sewing-machine – 1 box
12. Various rugs – 8
13. Small wall carpets – 2
14. Small mattress – 1
15. Linen cover for a couch – 1
16. Field bed – 1
17. Summer old blankets – 2
18. Veneer round box for things – 1
19. Various old laces – 10 m
20. Various new laces – 15 m
21. Curtain lace – 2.5 m
22. Canvas in pieces – 2.5 m
23. 2 pieces of colored sateen – 3 m
24. Bleached coarse calico – 8 m
25. Lining canvas – 3 m
26. Linen cloth – 9 m
27. Simple sateen in flowers – 6 m
28. Flannelette – 4 m
29. 2 pieces of calico – 6 m
30. Colored fabric for clothes (3 pieces) – 17 m
31. White fabric for ladies' underwear (4 pieces) – 13 m

32. White linen for clothes – 3 m
33. Colored textile for furniture – 5 m
34. Colored mattress textile – 4 m
35. Linen for towels (2 pieces) – 12 m
36. 3 pieces of colored crepe de Chine – 9 m
37. Tussore silk for clothes – 4.5 m
38. 2 pieces of woolen cloth – 5.5 m
39. Colored poplin for a cloth – 3 m
40. 2 pieces of colored stuff for clothes – 6 m
41. Summer white coverlets – 3
42. Old bedside-table with one drawer – 1
43. Rocking-chair – 1
44. Knitted cloth for a bedside-table – 1
45. Large mirror – 1
46. Children's chairs – 2
47. Small table – 1
48. Small old trunk – 1
49. Old wardrobe – 1
50. Black window ledges – 5
51. Window curtains – 5
52. Table clothes – 4
53. Various face towels – 5
54. Embroidered table-napkins – 2
55. Table-runner – 1
56. Lace pillow-covers – 2
57. Various small napkins – 33
58. Bed-sheets – 3
59. Large pillow-slips – 12
60. Small pillow-slips – 3
61. Old feather-bed case – 1
62. Night-shirts – 2
63. Night-gowns – 4
64. Electric iron – 1
65. Silk scarves – 4
66. Silk muffler – 1
67. Woolen kerchief – 1
68. Silk kerchief – 1
69. Wool in clews – 4
70. Wool in hanks – 6
71. Men's cloth peaked caps – 2
72. Men's hat – 1
73. Crepe de Chine two-piece dress – 1
74. Summer old dresses – 5
75. Old sun-dresses – 2
76. Old silk dress – 1
77. Old woolen dresses – 2

408. Honey – 2 bottles
409. Oil – 1 jam
433. Various boxes – 4
434. Mattress sack – 1

Present /signature/
Inventoried by /signature/

Pages 57-61

DECISION

(re: taking a measure of preventive punishment and bringing a charge)
26 October 1935, Simferopol

... FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg, born in 1897, German, non-party, maid, from kulaks, native of Baden, Odessa, resides in Simferopol ...
... exposed enough as a person carrying out counter-revolutionary and espionage activities on the instructions of accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann ...
... HAVE DECIDED: institute criminal proceedings against FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg as the accused by article 58-6 of the Criminal Code and choose keeping under arrest as a measure of preventive punishment ...
... "Charge re-brought – articles 58-10, 58-11 instead of 58-6" ...

26 October 1935

WARRANT № 44 to arrest of FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg residing in Simferopol at Apt.1, 24/14 Maxim Gorky St. ...

26 October 1935

FORM OF THE ARRESTED

... FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg, 1897, born in Baden, Odessa, ... housemaid, from farmers, ... arrested on 26 October 1935 ...

04 June 1936

Reference

FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg, dependant, disfranchised on 20 August 1930 by article 15-M (as a minister of religion) ...

Pages 63-64

25 December 1935
Simferopol

Top secret

REFERENCE

Regarding: The arrest of GUDAITIS, M. M., born in 1873 in Poland,
Lithuanian, citizen of the USSR, Catholic priest in Sevastopol

... Catholic Bishop FRISON confessed that being in contact with organizer and leader of counter-revolutionary activities of Catholic Church in the USSR Neve (Catholic Bishop of Moscow diocese, secret representative of Vatican in the USSR, librarian in the Embassy of France, resides in Moscow, collects through local representatives of Catholic Church information about political and economic life in the USSR as well as its military power to be then delivered to the Embassy of France and Pope), he on the instructions from abroad carried out active illegal counter-revolutionary espionage work...

... Counter-revolutionary espionage activity of FRISON and his subordinates was subsidized through Nevae from abroad, mainly in foreign currency which, as FRISON stated, was secretly transferred with special people ...

... As a reward for counter-revolutionary activities, FRISON paid 1,000 Roubles to Gudaitis, M. M. delivering money through his niece Magdalena FRISON who visited Sevastopol with this specific purpose ...

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17 February 1936
Simferopol

REFERENCE

Regarding: The arrest of BASIUK, K. J., born in 1877 in Poland,
organ player in Catholic Church

... FRISON has been in close contact with Basiuk, K. J. who through his wife got from Poland magazines of counter-revolutionary nature as well as maps with old borderlines of Poland, one of these maps was found when searching FRISON ... Moreover, Basiuk regularly received from FRISON food and money ...

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08 April 1936
secret
Simferopol

Top

REFERENCE

Regarding: The arrest of WENDEL, J. J., born in 1893 ...

... Being in close contact with FRISON, Wendel kept at his apartment gold and silver belonging to FRISON privately and to the church ...

... With FRISON's assistance Wendel received fascist "aid" ...

... Wendel assisted FRISON in illegal spreading literature and religious items received from abroad; in particular he assisted in sending literature to Odessa ...

Pages 107-108

29 March 1936

Top

secret

Simferopol

REFERENCE

Regarding: The arrest of GODSELICH, A .J., born in 1865 in Mariupol,
Sexton in Catholic Church

... On the instructions from FRISON, Godselich illegally spread icons received from abroad within German villages in Crimea ...

... Got fascist aid through FRISON ...

... Got fascist newspaper "Kolnische Zeitung" for FRISON ...

... Was aware of FRISON's anti-Soviet activity in the village of Rosental ...

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22 April 1936

Simferopol

REFERENCE

Regarding: The arrest of GODSELICH, A. A., born in 1904 ...

... Was aware of FRISON's fascist activities but concealed it from the soviets ...

... Confessed that he knew of FRISON's convincing parishioners to disbelieve in longevity of the soviets, that FRISON discredited soviet organizations and institutions, scoffed at shock-worker movement ...

... Was a middle-man in getting newspaper "Kelnische Zeitung" for FRISON, knew that FRISON distributed fascist "aid" but concealed it ...

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02 April 1936

REFERENCE regarding arrest of GODSELICH, T. A.

... Electric power station electrician Godselich, Theodore A. is involved in counter-revolutionary fascist activities of Catholic underground organization in Crimea ...

... At father's flat FRISON arranged meetings of Germans coming to Simferopol and discussed political issues in the spirit of anti-soviet propaganda ...

... Godselich informed FRISON about the electric power station work ...

Pages 142-143

03 April 1936

REFERENCE regarding the arrest of GODSELICH, J. A. (electrician)
... Attended illegal meetings arranged by FRISON at his father's flat ...
... Informed FRISON about workers' political moods, specified number of diesel engines and their power ...
... Knew that FRISON subscribed for himself pictorial magazine "Kelnische Zeitung" (which was send to Godselich's younger brother Alexander's address) ...
... Periodically, in the guise of borrowing, received money from FRISON ...

Page 193

REFERENCE regarding the arrest of KELSCH, P. A.
... FRISON stayed at Kelsch's when visiting Rosental ...
... Kelsch's mother received from FRISON icons, lockets, etc. and spread that among Rosental villagers ...

Page 219

REFERENCE on the arrested FEIST, E. G.
... Got from FRISON information regarding events about to happen in the USSR in 1936 (coup d'etat) ...
... Feist's flat served as FRISON's residence where he arranged meetings of Catholics and religious rites ...

Page 309

REFERENCE regarding the arrest of STEPOCHKIN, F. S., Russian (a train conductor at the railroad line Sevastopol-Moscow, resides in Sevastopol)
... According to FRISON's deposition, in 1933-1934 he received from Neve the sum of 200 dollars in sealed envelope through a railroad man residing in Sevastopol whose name was allegedly unknown to FRISON ...
... Therefore, Stepochkin was the one through whom FRISON kept in touch with Newe ...

Page 344

25 November 1935

Simferopol

DECISION

... Taking into account that accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann hid currency ... a search was made in the church of Simferopol ...

08 December 1935

To: Military Prosecutor of the Black Sea Fleet (Sevastopol)

On case No. 2128

... residing in Simferopol Bishop of Catholic Church and Southern part of Tyraspol diocese FRISON, Alexander son of Johann was arrested on 15 October of the current year ... His niece FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg was arrested on 26 October ... they carried out counter-revolutionary espionage activities ... FRISON delivered information about political and economic state of Crimea to German Embassy in Moscow through Catholic pastor Kappes (exiled now) ... FRISON received from Kappes 250 American dollars ...

... In 1927 after being ordained Bishop FRISON, Alexander son of Johann established links with French subject Bishop Neve on whose instructions he spread literature gotten from abroad among the believers ...

... requested extension of the term of investigation and arrest ... from 15 January 1936 ... until 15 March 1936 ...

Page 400

19 November 1935, Simferopol

... having considered military experts' resolution regarding the maps found at FRISON's flat ... they have military destination and define the accused as a person concerned with military matters and events ... file the maps as an evidence ...

Pages 401-409

26 March 1936, Simferopol

DECISION /regarding prolongation of the term of investigation and arrest/

... the underground organization... that under cover of religious work carried out counter-revolutionary fascist activities among Catholics, especially in German Catholic colonies in Crimea ...

... counter-revolutionary nature lied in the fact that the organization widely propagandized nationalistic fascist ideas, instilled into the Catholics' mind inevitable destruction of kolkhoz (*collective farm*) movement ... was an organizing center of counter-revolutionary fascist elements in towns and countryside (former chastisers, landowners, kulaks, etc.), spread Hitler's "aid" pursuing an object of spreading fascist groups in German Catholic colonies ...

... The principal accused on the case are FRISON, Alexander son of Johann and GUDAITIS, M. M. ... FRISON is an illegal Bishop, Apostolic administrator of Southern part of Tyraspol diocese, Theology Doctor, German by nationality, descended from landowner's family, graduated from Rome University. Before 1916 he occupied the post of rector in Saratov Rome-Catholic Theological Seminary, then a prior of Catholic churches in Kertch and Simferopol

having simultaneously German Catholic colonies in the parish. Before 1923 FRISON was an Italian government Consulate illegal agent.

... Accused FRISON headed a counter-revolutionary Catholic underground organization and in fact was its leader in the area of his diocese i.e. Crimea, Odessa, Nikolayev, Mariupol, Taganrog and Melitopol regions ...

... Counter-revolutionary activity was organized on the instructions of Vatican representatives who visited the USSR at different times under diverse pretexts ...

... In 1926 in Moscow, FRISON was illegally ordained Bishop by Pope's legate D'Arbini and on his instructions established regular links with the Vatican secret representative in the USSR, Bishop of Moscow diocese, French Embassy librarian Neve and maintained contact with him through the net of special secret couriers ...

... According to FRISON's depositions, Neve is an actual Head of Catholic Church in the USSR conducting its counter-revolutionary activities through the local representatives, and gathering information about the USSR regions economic power and political state is concentrated at Neve's disposal. Also, through the Embassy channels Neve manages getting illegal literature from abroad as well as funds to subsidize local representatives. Through Neve, FRISON got literature mentioned and funds to deliver to the places by secret couriers to be then spread among Catholics by means of the church activists and pastors under FRISON. In all, FRISON got from Neve over two thousand American dollars and 10,000 Roubles in soviet bills for his counter-revolutionary work ...

... Next people were found to be couriers of FRISON, Neve and Gudaitis: 1. FRISON, Magdalena (FRISON's niece, arrested) ...

... Moreover, secret addresses are found in Simferopol and Moscow ...

... Being a nationalist of fascist trend, FRISON and pastors under him as well as church activists conducted their counter-revolutionary activities in German colonies of Crimea being in permanent contact with the German Embassy and white émigré circles ...

... In 1914 right before the war declaration, under the guise of treatment in Germany FRISON and former member of 1st State Duma Catholic pastor Sypiagin established contacts with officers of German army and with assistance of its headquarters were transferred on a military zeppelin to Austro-Hungary right at the moment of declaration of war, with going on to Russia through Italy and Turkey then ...

... At the occupation of Crimea by German troops in 1918, FRISON and Sypiagin who resided along kept up close links with German headquarters, interpreter Feist and Czech-Slovak subject German Lerich ...

... After Lerich's departure and Feist's emigration abroad, being in touch with them FRISON in 1933-1934 organized spreading of Hitler's "aid" in Crimean Catholic colonies ...

... Having established in 1919 links with a head of punitive detachment Schneider and his company consisting solely of German Catholics of FRISON's parish he, FRISON rendered them direct assistance in conducting reconnaissance work in the Red Army's rear ...

... In 1925/1927 through his former follower and subsequently pastor Kappes (exiled now) who visited Germany and the Vatican in 1923/1924, FRISON, under the guise of going abroad for treatment got in contact with the German Embassy in Moscow and sent through Kappes information describing political and economic state of Crimea. Kappes received funds from a German Embassy from this FRISON received 250 American dollars ...

... During 1927-1929 through his subordinate pastor Graff and church counter-revolutionary activists, FRISON conducted active work among German Catholics on switching over a 1918

military loan to a German domestic loan, rendering Graff direct assistance in collecting information of economic and political nature to be sent to German Embassy official Metzger. This information was received by FRISON from his close counter-revolutionary contacts among the German kulaks ...

... Starting from 1926 until the arrest links with a German Embassy and its individuals through his subordinate pastors including former students of Theological Seminary; FRISON had formed fascist groups from active kulak parishioners and counter-revolutionary milieu of chastiser Schneider in Simferopol and German Catholic colonies. It's established that next individuals were members of one such groups organized in Simferopol by FRISON:

1. WALTER (student of Medical Institute, German, from kulaks);

...

7. FUST (German, book-keeper, chastiser Schneider's relative).

In the guise of family parties this group discussed political issues in a sense of bringing the Communist Party and Soviet Government to discredit ...

... Having acknowledged incomplete sincerity of his previous depositions, in the middle of March of the current year FRISON expressed his intention to give a new deposition on the substance of counter-revolutionary fascist activity of the underground Catholic organization in German colonies. He also named a number of persons who assisted in counter-revolutionary fascist activities among German Catholics ...

... HAVE DECIDED: Submit a petition for prolongation of the term of investigation and arrest for (8 people) ...

Pages 80-83

INTERROGATION RECORD

16 October 1935

Interrogation started at 13:00

... We, Head of the UGB Special Department Malyshev and operation officer Morozov questioned FRISON, Alexander son of Johann, born in 1875 in Baden, Odessa ... occupation – Simferopol, Bishop, Apostolic administrator of Southern part of Tyraspol diocese, from kulaks, parents – defunct ... single, relatives:

niece – Magdalena FRISON, resides with him;

niece – Catharina BROKSMEIER, housewife, resides in Kertch;

nephew – FRISON, Johann son of Georg, book-keeper, resides in Cherson;

nephew – DESCHLE, Georg son of Joseph, resides in America, farmer;

nephew – FRISON, Ignatius son of Georg, lives in Morocco.

Education – secondary (Seminary), higher – Rome University, Faculty of Theology ... in 1923 convicted for misappropriation of church property, served 6 months ... in 1925 under trial for assault and battery, conviction expunged by cassation ...

QUESTION: Do you know pastor Kappes?

ANSWER: Yes, I know him well he was a student of mine when I worked as a Head of Saratov Rome-Catholic Seminary. Afterwards I knew him to be a pastor

having a parish in Volga region and I visited with him during this period. I am also aware of his conviction and being exiled for the time being.

QUESTION:

What do you know about Kappes's travels abroad?

ANSWER:

In 1927 Kappes visited me in Simferopol by invitation on account of the 25th-year anniversary of my work as a priest. He then told me that in 1923-1924 he travelled to Berlin on the matter of rendering food relief to German Catholics of Volga region. That time he also called at Rome to visit Vatican and meet Pope.

QUESTION:

Who else Kappes visited with in Germany and Rome besides?

ANSWER:

As he told me, in Berlin with Bishop Kessler who emigrated to Germany in 1918. As for Rome, I'm aware of just his meeting with the Pope.

QUESTION:

Expound the content and details of your conversation with Kappes on the matter of his travels to Berlin and Rome.

ANSWER:

As far as I can recall, our talk about Kappes's travels to Berlin and Rome arose in connection with my election and ordination to Bishop. Talking about this, Kappes stated that ... when meeting Pope he recommended me to be ordained bishop. They discussed four topics then: situation of Catholic Church in the USSR, pecuniary aid to Catholics, organizational matters of the Church and in this connection a Bishop assignment. When he met Kessler in Berlin they spoke about organization of food relief only and in this connection about production aid (Kessler mentioned an example of sending a tractor to German Catholic colonists) ...

QUESTION:

Hence it appears that Kappes's visit to Rome was associated with the aim to inform of the state of Catholics in the USSR. How did Kappes inform the Pope about that?

ANSWER:

He didn't tell me about it.

QUESTION:

... Who delegated Kappes ...

ANSWER:

I don't know.

QUESTION:

Did you get money from Kappes?

ANSWER:

No.

Questioning interrupted at 15:00
FRISON /signature/

Questioning resumed at 21:30

QUESTION:

Where and when you were ordained Bishop?

ANSWER:

1926 in Moscow where I was called for from Crimea.

QUESTION:

You stated that you had a meeting with Kappes in 1927 when he came to Simferopol to your anniversary, is that right?

ANSWER: Regarding meetings with Kappes and time when I got to know about his travels to Germany and Rome I told lies above. Actually, first time I met Kappes in 1925 in Simferopol after his return from abroad. He arrived, I believe, from Saratov to give me a view of results of his travel abroad, also to get information about a state of matters in my parish and at the same time get to know about my health, as while abroad he heard that I was allegedly sick and would not be able to hold a post for reasons of health. Second time we met in 1926 in Moscow and third one – in 1927 at the anniversary.

QUESTION: Why did you conceal that at first?

ANSWER: Having no courage, I was led by an idea to conceal our interrelations with Kappes as the one having contacts abroad and so evade more severe punishment in case of trial.

QUESTION: Expound content and details of your meeting with Kappes in 1925.

ANSWER: ... Kappes informed the Pope of a state of matters in the Church and religion in general in Tyraspol diocese consisting of Caucasus, Crimea, former Saratov, Samara, Astrakhan, Cherson provinces and Bessarabia as well as about political and economic state of these regions, describing the Church state as hard and standard of living – being low because of economy having fallen into decay ... They also discussed the Church organizational problems, possibility of founding courses of divinity or instituting a Theological Seminary for training of personnel ...

... We exchanged information about political and economic state of Crimea and Northern part of the diocese, I painted Crimea in extremely dark colors ... The Church and religion state in the diocese Northern part was similar to that of Crimea but the economic situation – much worse ... We both approved Pope's idea regarding the courses or Seminary to institute but didn't come to any final conclusion on the matter. Kappes then gave me 50 dollars...

... Kappes said that he will send information to Rome regarding my good health and assured me that my nomination for the election to Bishop remains firm ...

QUESTION: At what circumstances did you have a meeting with Kappes in 1926? What did it have as an object?

ANSWER: The meeting took place in Moscow where I was called by the Pope's delegate Bishop D'Erbeni who arrived for ordaining me Bishop. On the way from Charkov to Moscow, wishing to let Kappes know about my travel to Moscow, I sent him an agreed telegram saying that I was travelling on the matter of health centre and that meant that a question of establishment of Theological Seminary is to be put and settled. Being interested in this, Kappes came to Moscow and we met in the church to discuss just that question and the course of its solution through d'Erbeni in the USSR Commissariat of Foreign Affairs. After the ordaining and

D'Erbeni's positive statement for the Seminary institution I departed to Crimea, I think Kappes also left Moscow that very day.

QUESTION: You earlier stated that you received no money from Kappes. Why are you deposing insincerely? ...

ANSWER: I already explained ... I promise to tell only truth in the future ...

Interrogation completed at 02.10 am of 17 October
/signatures/

Pages 90-91

INTERROGATION RECORD

20 October 1935

Interrogation started at 21:10

QUESTION: Beside his travels abroad in 1923-1924, did Kappes go abroad after your meeting with him in 1925?

ANSWER: No, not as far as I know. However, when we met in Simferopol in 1925 Kappes said that he was going to visit Germany to settle the question regarding emigration of Catholic Germans of the Volga region to Germany. However, he has not been able to realize this intention.

QUESTION: Where and how did Kappes plan to put this matter for a solution?

ANSWER: He didn't tell me where for sure, but I think he could do that in either the German Embassy in Moscow or at the Ministry of Internal Affairs when in Germany.

QUESTION: Beside the 50 dollars you received from Kappes in 1925 did you get additional amounts from him or someone else?

ANSWER: From Kappes nothing more. From Bishop Neve residing at the Embassy of France in Moscow, at different times – 1,000 Roubles, 2,000 Roubles and 300 Roubles in soviet bills. From the Pope's delegate d'Erbeni at different times got 550 Roubles in bills total and 100 dollars through the State Bank.

QUESTION: When and by what means you did you get the amounts mentioned from Neve and d'Erbeni?

ANSWER: I refuse to answer this question.

QUESTION: Why?

ANSWER: Can't explain now.

QUESTION: Did Neve and d'Erbeni remit money directly to you or was it delivered through somebody?

ANSWER: Delivered, but I refuse to call names of the deliverers.

QUESTION: From what sources did Neve get funds to then be delivered to you?
ANSWER: I think from Pope through the Embassy of France.

QUESTION: By what order and for what purposes was the money delivered to you?
ANSWER: That was delivered as an aid and pay for the position of Bishop as well as for giving relief to individual pastors.

QUESTION: Where is Neve and what post does he now hold?
ANSWER: The last information that I had of him was in about August of the current year ... he is in Moscow performing his mission of Catholic priest permanently residing at the Embassy of France.

QUESTION: If you received funds from Neve and d'Erbini as an aid and pay for the position of bishop, why you can't give the deliverers' names?
ANSWER: I don't want to give them away.

QUESTION: Did you tell about all amounts of money gotten from Neve and d'Erbini?
ANSWER: Beside that already indicated above, when I was ordained bishop in Moscow I got 250 dollars from d'Erbini.

"Depositions read to me, written down correctly after me"/A. J. Frison/

Pages 94-96

INTERROGATION RECORD

22 October 1935

Interrogation started at 21:00

QUESTION: Name the persons through whom you got money from d'Erbini and Neve.
ANSWER: Personally from d'Erbini twice as said above ... From Neve that was done through two persons – my niece Frison, Magdalena who in every special case by suggestion of mine and the former Armenian priest, Kolotuzov in Simferopol who travelled to Moscow.

QUESTION: Where is Kolotuzov now?
ANSWER: Died, I believe in 1930 in Tiflis where he moved from Simferopol.

QUESTION: How, when and what amounts of money were delivered from Neve to you through your niece and Kolotuzov?
ANSWER: 1929 – 1,000 Roubles through Kolotuzov, through my niece – 2,000 Roubles in 1932 and 500 Roubles in September of last year. Handing the money took place in a French church where she came as we agreed.

QUESTION: Where and at what circumstances did you get the 250 dollars from d'Erbini?

ANSWER: Before being ordained bishop at professor Ott's flat where we beforehand had agreed to meet.

QUESTION: How and when was this meeting stipulated?

ANSWER: Having arrived from abroad, d'Erbini visited Odessa where he had a meeting with the Catholic priest Fluch and handed him Ott's address asking him to forward it to me with the proposal to come to Ott's flat when I'm in Moscow. Fluch did that and on arrival to Moscow I first called on the prior of Polish church Lupinovich to pick up the address and then, having it I went to Ott's flat and had a meeting with d'Erbini there.

QUESTION: What do you know about interrelations of Ott and d'Erbini? Did you know Ott before?

ANSWER: ... Nothing ... No ... Afterwards I heard that Ott worked at some secondary educational institutions as a teacher, his wife is a French woman, seems to himself be a German by nationality living in Russia for a long time because his German language was pretty poor when I made an attempt to speak German with him.

QUESTION: Was Ott present when d'Erbini handed money to you?

ANSWER: No, he was in a different room.

QUESTION: Since when and on whose instructions did you get into contact with Neve?

ANSWER: I knew Neve long ago when in the Saratov Seminary. Later I got to know that he had a parish in Makeyevka (Donbass) and shortly before leaving for Moscow he was ordained bishop. Links with him were established on the instructions of d'Erbini, who in either 1928 or 1929 (can't recall for sure now) informed me by letter in agreed terms that I'd get amounts destined to me through Neve.

QUESTION: What was a purpose of funds you got from Neve?

ANSWER: ... pay for the post of bishop ... also in small amounts as an aid to individual pastors – Nold and Junkind in Crimea (handed) and prelate Krushinsky (remittance).

QUESTION: From whom did Neve get the money destined to you?

ANSWER: I do not know for sure, but believe he got it from the Embassy of France.

QUESTION: Why do you think so?

ANSWER: Neve resides at the Embassy and is in permanent contact with it, and I began to get money from him since he moved to Moscow and started to serve officials of the Embassy as parishioners.

QUESTION: What did you deliver to Neve through your niece when she travelled to Moscow?

ANSWER: Two letters.

QUESTION: What did you write in them?

ANSWER: I described condition and status of religion, informed of arrests of clergymen as well as about political and economic state in Crimean town and country.

QUESTION: For whom exactly was this information destined?

ANSWER: Directly for Neve, but I have no doubt that he forwarded all that to the Embassy.

QUESTION: On what terms Neve was with Kappes?

ANSWER: I have no idea.

QUESTION: You said that in 1925 you received from 50 dollars Kappes. From where did he get the money?

ANSWER: I was sure he got it in the Embassy of Germany. Therefore, I did not ask him about a source.

QUESTION: You were sure, if so why?

ANSWER: I knew that Kappes maintained contact with the Embassy of Germany in Moscow.

QUESTION: How did you happen to know it?

ANSWER: Kappes personally told me about it in 1925 when we met in Simferopol, and again in 1926 in Moscow as well.

QUESTION: How was Kappes's contact with the Embassy evinced?

ANSWER: During his visits to the Embassy Kappes informed the officials about the state and attitude of the minds of the colonists ... Used the services of the Embassy for corresponding with the Pope ...

Interrogation completed at 00:15
/Alexander Frison/

Pages 101-103

INTERROGATION RECORD

23 October 1935

Interrogation started at 20:00

QUESTION: Have you been an Italian correspondent?

ANSWER: Italian Consulate in Odessa considered me its correspondent.

QUESTION:

On what grounds it did so?

ANSWER:

No one of the Consulate officials told me why, but I suppose because before the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Italy i.e. before the Embassy and Consulates were formed, I as a pastor of Italian colony in Kerch, represented in some way the interests of Italian colonists and as regards to this, was in touch with Italian Trade Delegation in Moscow.

QUESTION:

When did you establish links with the delegation mentioned and with whom did you keep up a contact personally?

ANSWER:

I can't recall exactly but think it was in 1921 ... A contact was maintained directly with Amadori who was at the head of the Delegation. I have to add that beside the Delegation mentioned, there was Italian Red Cross mission in Novorossiysk and later on in Rostov-on-Don which gave pecuniary aid to Italians only and, since many of them in my parish had expired passports which made getting aid more difficult, they came to me to get an advice and assistance as for getting national passports. At their urgent request I appealed to Amadori with written request asking for his advice and that became the beginning of setting links with the Delegation and in particular with Amadori.

QUESTION:

Representing the interests of Italian colony in Kerch, what powers did you have then? What matter exactly was your mission of representing the interests of Italian citizens?

ANSWER:

I did not have any powers as such. However, Amadori replied and gave instructions regarding how to go to draw up national passports. Following his instructions I collected everybody's documents and sent that on their behalf to the Italian Trade Delegation in Moscow which then sent the passports back to me ...

Besides, I corresponded with Amadori regarding giving aid to Italians of my parish, at his request I drew up a list of those most in need ...

The Trade Delegation remitted 400,000 Roubles in soviet banknotes as an aid to distribute among those in need and that amount was distributed under my guidance by a special committee elected at the general meeting

...

That was my mission until coming to Kerch in 1923 of Odessa Italian Vice-Consul who assumed responsibilities on passports and other questions.

QUESTION:

So, it turns out that having no official powers you actually were an agent of Italian government representing the interests of Italian colony in Crimea.

ANSWER:

Indeed that is so.

QUESTION:

Did you visit the Trade Delegation in person?

ANSWER:

No, just corresponded.

QUESTION: You said that in 1923, control on representing the interests of Italians residing in Kerch and defense of their rights was assumed by Italian Consul in Odessa. Did you meet with him?

ANSWER: Yes, he called on me when he visited Kerch.

QUESTION: Did you inform him about a state of Italian colony in Kerch then?

ANSWER: I was not able to do that since he only stayed for a very short time.

QUESTION: What problems did you then discuss with him?

ANSWER: The Vice-Consul (I do not remember his name) only had the time to tell me that he had arrived for checking foreign passports and requested to apply on passport issues at the Consulate in Odessa directly. He also said that he will visit Kerch periodically ...

QUESTION: Afterwards, in what facts your connection with the Italian diplomatic representatives was evinced?

ANSWER: I did not go to the Embassy and Consulate I just had meetings with their individual officials.

QUESTION: When and who exactly?

ANSWER: In 1932 in Kerch where I went to serve the parish, I then met translator of Italian Embassy in Moscow Vincenzo Qualarello who in the past was my student. In August 1932 – at Italian subject Kasanelli's flat I had a meeting with the secretary of Italian Consulate in Odessa, his name I have forgotten.

QUESTION: In connection with what?

ANSWER: Qualarello was taking vacation at his cousin Kasanelli, formerly mentioned and stayed in Kerch for about a month. The secretary above had been living in Kerch for about 6 months along with his wife. As Kasanelli said, the Consulate secretary's staying in Kerch was connected to a passport question. Kasanelli also said that while living in Kerch the secretary often travelled to Odessa and Novorossiysk.

/Alexander Frison/

INTERROGATION RECORD

25 October 1935

QUESTION: Who did Frison, Magdalena stop to see when she travelled to Moscow?

ANSWER: First time, by Neve's recommendation – a French woman Blansh residing at the French church, second time at her acquaintance Plekhanova who resided at station Skhodny.

QUESTION: Did she ever go to professor Ott's flat?

ANSWER: No.

QUESTION: Name the address of professor Ott's flat in Moscow.

ANSWER: I have forgotten it, but can recall that somewhere close to Polish church.

QUESTION: You said that when Kappes travelled to Rome he did that along with someone. Who was that exactly?

ANSWER: Dean of Chisinau Catholic church Glaser who was called by Kappes to come to Berlin first and from there they started the trip to Rome.

QUESTION: Where is Glaser dwelling now? Are you in touch with him?

ANSWER: I think Glaser lives in Chisinau as before. I have no contact with him.

/Alexander Frison/

Pages 112-114

INTERROGATION RECORD

26 October 1935

Interrogation started at 22:00

QUESTION: When questioned on 20 October of the current year, you told us that you got the latest information about Neve in August. From whom?

ANSWER: From the common acquaintance with Neve, pastor Mikhalyov who visited me in Simferopol in August asking to get him assigned to a parish at Neve's request ... Mikhalyov formerly served as a priest of Russian Orthodox church, he is Russian by nationality ... and resides at 9 Komsomol Street in Leningrad ...

QUESTION: Why did you keep your correspondence with Mikhalyov secret?

ANSWER: With the aim to conceal our relations with Neve ...

QUESTION: Through whom else did you keep in touch with Neve?

ANSWER: Through my acquaintance Plekhanova residing in Moscow as well as former Russian priest who subsequently converted to the Catholic faith (I can not recall his name) and a Catholic nun whose name is unknown to me.

QUESTION: How did you contact Neve through the ones mentioned?

ANSWER: In 1926 Neve delivered bishop vestments through the mentioned Russian priest who had a parish in Kharkov region. In 1928 on her way to Odessa, the nun brought devotional things from Neve (crosses, beads and medallions) and a letter. In 1935 Plekhanova visited me in Simferopol to pick up my letter and to deliver it to Neve.

QUESTION: Of what did you inform Neve in the letter?

ANSWER: I informed him of arrests of pastors in former Cherson province as well as about local authorities' oppressions in line of disallowing me to leave the town for execution of occasional religious rites in the countryside.

QUESTION: Who let you know about arrest of pastors in former Cherson province? Who of them was exactly listed in this information?

ANSWER: Mainly, I got this info from pastor Merklinger residing in the village of Rastadt of Odessa region. He wrote in his letter about arrest of pastors Tauberger, Hofmann, Albert, Wolf, Bechler and Nold.

QUESTION: You were not subordinate to Neve administratively but nevertheless, maintained secret contact with him informing about ... For whom was that information destined?

ANSWER: For the Pope.

QUESTION: How did Neve forward this information to the Pope? Beside you, who else provided Pope with similar data?

ANSWER: I do not know.

QUESTION: What instructions and tasks of Neve were for you in his letters? ...

ANSWER: He never gave any tasks and instructions to me. As far as I can recall, he wrote about d'Erbini's illness, about struggle between Catholic Church and the government in Germany, about situation in Rome ...

QUESTION: Earlier you said that you got professor Ott's address from pastor Fluch by letter, is that right?

ANSWER: No, I did not say all the truth to the investigation on that ... Fluch's letter was brought to me by a special courier.

QUESTION: Give the name of this courier.

ANSWER: I know nothing about him.

QUESTION: Beside the case mentioned, did you ever meet this person again?

ANSWER: When starting to the village of Karlsruhe to visit Apostolic administrator Krushinsky in 1926, I met this person in Odessa after a public worship in the church of Assumption.

/Alexander Frison/

INTERROGATION RECORD

11 November 1935

QUESTION: It is known to the investigation that right before the war was declared in 1914 (Germany and Austria against Russia) you travelled abroad. To what country, with whom and for what purpose did you do that?

ANSWER: In June of 1914, during vacation time I went to a health resort of Karlsbad in Austria for medical treatment. I was accompanied then by Siniagin A. G., a teacher of Saratov Theological Seminary and my close friend.

QUESTION: Were you and Siniagin in Germany then?

ANSWER: On the way to Austria, we called at Berlin and Leipzig to stay for about 10 days there, and then left to Karlsbad.

QUESTION: Whom did you visit in Berlin and Leipzig?

ANSWER: In Berlin we called on my acquaintance, Rome University mate, dean of Catholic Church Johann Schmidt. As for Leipzig, we called there at specially to see the International Book Exhibition.

QUESTION: How long did you stay in Karlsbad?

ANSWER: Approximately until the middle of July.

QUESTION: Which way did you take back to Russia?

ANSWER: From Austria through Switzerland to Italy where we called at Rome, and then through Naples around Greece to take a ship in Turkey to get to Odessa.

QUESTION: Where did the war declaration find you?

ANSWER: In Rome.

QUESTION: Whom did you visit in Rome?

ANSWER: My acquaintance, Skirmund who worked as a Councillor at the Congregation of bishops and orders to lodge a complaint about Bishop Kessler to whom I was subordinate then and who treated me coarsely.

QUESTION: Who is Siniagin ...

ANSWER: He is descended from nobles ... In 1934 Neve travelled to Rome and had a meeting with Siniagin there ... Neve wrote that he visited the Pope then and dwelled in Rome for a pretty long time ... In 1919 Siniagin came back to Kerch to organize sending German prisoners of war back to Germany ... Siniagin's interrelations with circles of German troops and diplomats ...
...
Why are you answering evasively ...

Siniagin was a student of Theological Seminary not a teacher, and I had no close contacts with him lately ...

/Alexander Frison/

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INTERROGATION RECORD

22 November 1935

QUESTION: When searching at your flat a cluster of maps was found and withdrawn and among them there are several of special strategic operation purpose i.e. they are military maps. Where, when and for what purpose did you get them?

ANSWER: The maps were presented to me in 1932-1933 by former Greek Consul who also performed his mission of an agent of British, French and Italian Consulates in Kerch – Similidi, Jordan son of Ivan residing now in Kerch. That was a gift from him.

QUESTION: At what circumstances did Similidi hand the maps to you?

ANSWER: During that period of time when I went from Kerch to Simferopol for religious needs, I then stayed at my niece Braksmeier, Catharina's living at Italian Catholic church. During my stay there, Similidi called on me and when he handed the maps, he said that he was doing that with the only end in view that they would probably be of interest to me.

QUESTION: It turns out that Similidi was aware of your interest in military maps?

ANSWER: No, we never discussed military problems. I think he had no grounds for drawing conclusions regarding my interest in these problems and consequently in maps.

QUESTION: Why did Similidi then accentuate that the maps would be of interest to you?

ANSWER: I have no idea by what he was guided.

QUESTION: When getting the maps, did you look at them?

ANSWER: As far as I remember, I looked at one batch.

QUESTION: So, you knew that these maps are of military nature?

ANSWER: No, I did not know that.

/Alexander Frison/

Page 127

RECORD OF SUPPLEMENTARY INTERROGATION

25 November 1935

Interrogation started at 20:00

QUESTION: Do you know the Austrian subject engineer Liebenfrost?
ANSWER: Yes, he visited me three times; two times he came regarding christening of his child and the third time to just have a talk with me.

QUESTION: What are Liebenfrost's political convictions?
ANSWER: I have no idea.

QUESTION: Did Liebenfrost tell you about political compulsion regarding him?
ANSWER: Never.

QUESTION: Did Liebenfrost name someone of Catholic clergy during your conversation?
ANSWER: Yes, he named pastor Vardidze.

QUESTION: What did Liebenfrost say about Vardidze, how did they make the acquaintance?
ANSWER: I can not recall.

/Alexander Frison/

Page 129

RECORD OF SUPPLEMENTARY INTERROGATION

25 November 1935

Interrogation started at 21:00

QUESTION: Specify all of the hiding-places that you have in your flat and the church.
ANSWER: I have six of them – three in the church building and three at home. In the church – two places in organ and one in altar, at home – under a front staircase, near the corridor and by the cellar.

QUESTION: What was kept in your hiding-places and who else knew about them?
ANSWER: 1st (organ-player's chair) – 100 dollars, 600 Roubles, golden star and silver chain; 2nd (organ-pipe) – golden cross and finger-ring; 3rd (by the cellar) – about 200 dollars and Soviet money; 4th (under a staircase) – two tins, 600 dollars and golden items in one of them and Soviet money and golden things in another; in that one near the corridor – golden and silver things in two tins.

QUESTION: So, one can not say that you are above taking money.
ANSWER: Yes, that's right.

QUESTION: Where and from whom did you get the hidden foreign currency?
ANSWER: As deposed before, I received that from Kappes, d'Erbini and the German Catholic relief mission, it was delivered to me without any special purpose.

QUESTION: You did not answer as to who else knew about your hiding-places.
ANSWER: Only my niece Magdalena Frison.

“Depositions read to me, written down correctly after me”/A. J. Frison/

Pages 132-133

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)
26 November 1935

QUESTION: Earlier you deposed that you received 250 dollars from d'Erbini and 50 dollars from Kappes. During the search an amount of 1,684 dollars was withdrawn. By what means and from whom you did get the rest of it?

ANSWER: Earlier I deposed not quite right. In fact I got \$350 from d'Erbini and \$100 from this amount was set aside for the church in Yalta. Because of unsteady state of the church there I did not deliver that though. From Kappes I got \$250, not \$50. Moreover, in 1933 I received \$200 from Neve who delivered it through some railroad man residing in Sevastopol. This amount was brought to me in a sealed envelope by some Sevastopol woman who said that the envelope was sent from the bishop ... Also, about \$300 was personally handed to me by Odessa pastor Neigum during his visit to Simferopol in 1929. He got this amount destined to me from the Apostolic administrator Krushinsky who was convicted and is in exile for the time being. No more money was received from anybody else.

QUESTION: How much of the foreign currency was spent for your personal needs?
ANSWER: About 50 dollars.

QUESTION: From whom and by what means did you receive the rest of amount withdrawn?

ANSWER: I seem to be wrong regarding the money gotten from Kappes and d'Erbini. Apparently I got more than that pointed out.

QUESTION: What is the last name of the railroad man ...? And that woman who handed the packet to you.

ANSWER: I do not know his name. The woman lives in Sevastopol, Pole by nationality, about 55 years old, she called her name but I have... forgotten it.

QUESTION: In what relations are they? Where is the railroad man now? ...

ANSWER: I do not know.

QUESTION: Where and in whose presence was the packet from Neve handed to you?
ANSWER: At my flat. I can not recall whether my niece was present then.

QUESTION: Where is Neigum dwelling for the time being?
ANSWER: He lives at the new church which is at Frunze Street in Odessa.

“Have it read, written down correctly after me” /A. J. Frison/

Pages 136-137

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)
28 November 1935

QUESTION: What did you keep in the church besides the currency and values?
ANSWER: 2.5 kg of lead, Polish books – about 60 books of engineer Rakovsky who emigrated to Poland, 4 or 5 dry batteries for radio sets, one electro-meter and German book “Biography of Bishop Schreider”.

QUESTION: Where and for what purposes did you get these items?
ANSWER: I got the lead from technician of the Department of Communication Konstantin Snarsky residing at 10 Feodosia Road, he took it illegally at the Department by my request. The meter was gotten in the same way from the church sexton’s son Godselich, Joseph who works as an electrician at Simferopol electric power station. As for the “Biography of Schreider”, the author of this book published in 1933 is my friend by Rome University and I also got it illegally from Berlin through interpreter of Italian Embassy in Moscow Vincenzo Qualarello who delivered the book to me through Italian subject Kasanelly, Angelo son of Peter. I asked to get a piece of lead for my acquaintance German colonist Joseph Ehrler to use for small shot as he is a hunter, I did not have the time to deliver it since he was arrested and then exiled. Also, the meter was intended for its direct use in the church and the batteries – for my radio set.

QUESTION: If it is like that, why did you hide all the things mentioned in the church?
ANSWER: Properly speaking I hid the piece of lead, the meter and mentioned book only, and kept all the rest in the church since there was not enough room for that at my home. The batteries were left in the church because there is no more need of them in view of switching the radio set to local broadcasting. The lead was kept there for convenient handing to Ehrler since he visited just the church sometimes, not my flat. The book was hidden because I got it illegally.

QUESTION: It's known to the investigation that besides the things above you also kept other items in the church – rosaries, crosses, small paper icons, medallions as well as printed instructions for how to use a rosary and Litanies printed in Latin. For what purpose did you do that?

ANSWER: I got it all from Neve in an illegal way and feared that it could come to the officers in case of my arrest.

QUESTION: Where and by what means were the Litanies typed?

ANSWER: Litanies of St. Antony (prayers to St. Antony) were printed in Simferopol in 1929 - 1930 by arrested Walter's wife on a typewriter of some Chovenko who is a Czeck, at that time he worked as a foreign representative on spreading of threshing machines in the Crimean Czech colonies.

QUESTION: Where is Chovenko now?

ANSWER: As far as I know he was expelled to Czecho-Slovakia in 1930 (maybe some later).

QUESTION: For what he was expelled?

ANSWER: I do not know.

QUESTION: Where were "The Most Saint Virgin's Rosary" manuals printed?

ANSWER: I'm convinced that they were done abroad.

QUESTION: If so, why is it stated on the first page that they were published in Petrograd in 1917 with a license of Catholic sacred censor?

ANSWER: To my mind it was done for enciphering while they were actually issued abroad to be illegally brought and spread in the USSR.

QUESTION: Do you admit that the contents of these instructions were used for anti-soviet purposes?

ANSWER: Yes, and this is pronounced brightly at the end of historical part of that for a rosary.

QUESTION: Who exactly directed spreading of this literature?

ANSWER: I got it in 1929 - 1930 from Neve and think he was at the head of its spreading in the USSR.

"Have it read, written down correctly after me" /A. J. Frison/

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INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)

29 November 1935

QUESTION: Besides the items you listed yesterday, what other things and values were kept and exactly where?

ANSWER: In about 1927 or 1928 I nailed a lath to the bottom of my trunk and hid 100 Roubles (or more) in gold coins under it. Moreover, I put gold chains in there as well. In the summer of 1935 I conveyed this trunk to the church sexton Godselich's flat where it is placed in the kitchen.

QUESTION: Did Godselich know that there is gold hidden in your trunk?

ANSWER: No.

“Read to me, written down correctly after me” /A. J. Frison/

Pages 142-143

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)

08 December 1935

QUESTION: When and at what circumstances you did make the acquaintance of Similidy, Jordan?

ANSWER: In 1916 in Kerch when we both attended a New Year party at notary Bagensky ...

QUESTION: Which state system is Similidy the supporter?

ANSWER: I have no idea since we never discussed that. At any rate, he's not a soviet person and can not be so.

QUESTION: On what concrete grounds can you assert that i.e. Similidy is an anti-soviet person and antagonist of Soviet power system?

ANSWER: In one of our conversations that we held regarding his work in Soviet establishments, Similidy outspokenly stated that this kind of work is not appropriate for him at all because his ideology is different and because of that he is not intending to work for the benefit of the soviets despite some offers available. That is the reason I think so.

QUESTION: Well if it is like that, how can you explain his reason of staying in the USSR whereas he as a Consul and Consulate agent of a number of foreign states had all possibilities to easily leave abroad?

ANSWER: We never talked about that.

QUESTION: What is Similidy's current occupation?

ANSWER: Private lessons of foreign languages.

QUESTION: Does this suit him in moral and pecuniary ways?

ANSWER: I don't know of a moral aspect but as for that of economic it is not suitable enough since he complained to me in person of pecuniary neediness and that he can only exist due to his sister's support, she works as a teacher of a Greek school in Kerch.

QUESTION: Does Similidy enjoy aid of some foreign state?

ANSWER: I do not know. Just being aware of Similidy's neediness and wishing to help him, in 1934 I appealed to Qualarello of the Italian Embassy asking him for arranging some relief to Similidy through the International Red Cross.

QUESTION: And what?

ANSWER: When visiting Similidy in 1935 in Kerch I asked if he received any aid from the Red Cross. He said that he got nothing, nor did he wish to get it.

QUESTION: Name those with whom Similidy keeps in touch. Indicate their opinions regarding the Soviet power.

ANSWER: Our common acquaintances are ... They all do not agree to the Soviet power policy.

"Read to me, written down correctly after me" /Alexander Frison/

Page 146

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)
17 December 1935

QUESTION: Which of the last names listed below is most consonant to that of the lady who brought the packet to you: Kravchenko, ...

ANSWER: I can not say ... Her name was written down a scrap of paper but since it was done about two years ago I can not recall it now.

Page 148

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)
20 December 1935

QUESTION: Do you identify the woman shown to you with that one who brought the packet with money from Neve?

ANSWER: I can not say for sure ...

"Read to me, written down correctly after me" /Alexander Frison/

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)
22 December 1935

QUESTION: When searching in the church an address was found of some Teich, Alexandra daughter of Johann residing in Moscow. Who is the one that this record belongs to?

ANSWER: I am.

QUESTION: How, when and for what purpose did you get this address?

ANSWER: I got the Teich's address from Mikhalev during his visit to Simferopol in 1930 - 1931. He then said that one should use this address as a middle (secret) one for correspondence with Neve ...

QUESTION: Besides you and Mikhalev who else had the Teich's address?

ANSWER: I do not know, nor did Mikhalev say about that.

QUESTION: What kind of information was sent by you to this address?

ANSWER: I did not use this address for fear, I had doubts as to its especial security so did not use it. When needed, I corresponded with Neve through reliable persons.

QUESTION: So, observation of the rules of security when corresponding with Neve, through Mikhalev in particular, was conditioned by illegal activity you and Neve carried out?

ANSWER: Yes, you understand me right.

QUESTION: What illegal anti-soviet activities exactly did you conduct jointly with Neve?

ANSWER: I have to mention that illegal anti-soviet activity carried out in the USSR was led by Neve directly. It was carried out in the area of religion and came to two main problems:

1. Organization of illegal pecuniary aid and support of Catholic Church and clergy owing to funds gotten from abroad (mainly from the Pope).
2. Consolidation of Catholic Church in the USSR, greater expansion of its influence upon believers (training of clergymen), spreading of gotten from abroad religious literature including that saturated with anti-soviet contents.

Being in direct contact with Neve I, for the mentioned purposes illegally received religious literature, in particular of anti-soviet contents and spread it among the believers ("The Most Saint Virgin's Rosary"), in illegal way, forwarded to Neve information about the Church standing, arrests of pastors and local authorities' attitude to them as well as about political-

moral and economic state of district of my parish and some other ones under administration of mine, to be then forwarded to Rome to director of the East institute, Pope's former delegate to the USSR d'Erbini who apparently submitted this information to Pope.

QUESTION:

Besides you, who else was drawn by Neve in illegal anti-soviet activities?

ANSWER:

I do not know.

QUESTION:

Name those who gave you information of mentioned nature for districts of your administration. Which districts or regions of the USSR were parts of it?

ANSWER:

It was formed by Crimea, Odessa region, South part of Ukraine consisting of Odessa city and adjacent German colonies, Nikolayev region consisting of Nikolayev, Cherson with adjoining German colonies, Melitopol district within the limits of former uyezd, and Rostov and Taganrog districts including the cities of Rostov-on-Don and Taganrog themselves. I received the mentioned information about a state of all above districts with the exception of Crimea from pastor Krushinsky who is exiled now. Some part of information (regarding arrests of pastors in South part of Ukraine) was received from pastor Merklinger of Rastadt, Nilolayev region.

QUESTION:

Why did Krushinsky inform you of the situation in the most part of your administration? It turns out that he had the authority for that... didn't he?

ANSWER:

Yes, Krushinsky served as a Vicar General and on the grounds of powers conferred to him by me as a bishop, he gave leadership to the administration districts with the exception of Crimea and reported back to me directly.

QUESTION:

Was Krushinsky in touch with Neve?

ANSWER:

No, Prior to 1929 i.e. during his holding the post of Apostolic administrator, he had a contact with d'Erbini but after I assumed control of the South he became subordinate to me and contacted with me only.

QUESTION:

That information about political-economic state of the districts ... what plane did it touch?

ANSWER:

In a condensed form I pictured there a people's general feeling regarding the soviet power and its legislative enactments. I pointed out there that people's economic conditions are poor to provoke dissatisfaction with the soviets. This info generalized these moods in both towns and countryside.

QUESTION:

From what sources did you draw information about political moods of the people?

ANSWER:

Mostly, I communicated with the well off kulak's in the countryside. In towns – with those deprived by the soviets of economic and privileged rights they had enjoyed before. These were the sources ...

QUESTION: It then turns out that the information you sent to Neve and further abroad did not correspond to real facts. Does this mean that you gave false information?

ANSWER: Yes, I realize that information about political moods was wrong since dissatisfaction with the soviets expressed by prosperous villagers and a socially alien element in towns was represented by me as general.

QUESTION: Name those who supplied you with this kind of information.

ANSWER: There were no special persons to give me this information. I got and collected it at chance meetings and conversations.

QUESTION: You earlier said that the funds you received from Neve in illegal ways were then given as assistance to priests. To whom and what amounts were given out?

ANSWER: ... 1,000 Roubles to Sevastopol pastor Gudaitis, 2,000 Roubles to Krushinsky before his arrest, 300 Roubles to pastor Nold (died in 1935) and 100 Roubles to Reuter (Eichwald, Mariupol).

QUESTION: How did you forward that to them, handed in person or remitted?

ANSWER: To Krushinsky – in a parcel, Gudaitis – delivered through my niece Magdalena who made a special travel to Sevastopol, Nold – handed in person, Reuter – delivered through pastor Warth’s brother (convicted and exiled both) who visited Crimea and went on to Donbass then where Reuter had a parish.

“It was fixed that I and Neve have organized training of clergy personnel. There was no correspondence on that but just a question was raised in 1926”.

“Read to me, written down correctly after me” /Alexander Frison/

Page 162

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)
24 December 1935

QUESTION: In your depositions of 11 November 1935 you stated that in 1934 you were aware of Neve’s travel abroad and his meeting with the Pope. Which other countries did he visit besides Italy during that travel?

ANSWER: Although Neve did not write about that in his letter to me and just mentioned his visit to Pope in Rome, I think he then also visited France where his relatives live.

QUESTION: What place is Neve a native of, and in what regions of the USSR did he live before Makeyevka and his arrival to Moscow?

ANSWER: He is a native of France, Frenchman by nationality, has been living in Russia since 1909. On arrival to Russia Neve got a French Catholic parish in Makeyevka. I do not know if he had another parish besides Makeyevka and think that he lived there until his transfer to Moscow in 1925.

QUESTION: Did Neve ever visit Crimea?

ANSWER: I have no idea.

QUESTION: Besides you, who else was aware of Neve's travel abroad in 1934?

ANSWER: A message I received from Neve through my niece Frison, Magdalena was confirmed by Mikhalev. Therefore, Mikhalev knew about that as well. As for any others, I do not know.

QUESTION: What do you know about mutual relations of Neve and the Ott family residing in Moscow?

ANSWER: I just know that Ott's wife worked at the sacristy of French church in Moscow.

"Read to me, written down correctly after me" /Alexander Frison/

Pages 164-165

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)

25 December 1935

QUESTION: When questioned on 22 December you said that Neve has been an actual leader of illegal anti-soviet activities of the Catholic Church in the USSR. On what grounds did you make such a conclusion?

ANSWER:

- 1). Neve organized illegal pecuniary support of the Church owing to funds he received from foreign sources.
- 2). Illegal spreading of religious and in particular anti-soviet literature printed abroad and sent to the USSR was put into effect through Neve as well.
- 3). Judging by a single fact that I supplied Neve with information about situation in South part of Tiraspol diocese subordinated to me, this way Neve concentrated collection of information from the provinces about the Church state and political-economic condition of the USSR regions which, and I have no doubt of that, was not only forwarded through d'Erbini to Pope but moreover, was also submitted to the French Embassy for looking through. On these grounds and taking into account that I got instructions for keeping up contacts with Neve, I had no doubt of Neve's rights and powers given by Vatican.

QUESTION: Name the sources Neve received means for illegal anti-soviet activities and literature from.

ANSWER: I know nothing about them and Neve never wrote about that to me. At any rate, he got funds and literature from abroad. I also think that the Embassy of France was aware of that.

QUESTION: Name the persons involved besides you by Neve in illegal anti-soviet activities.

ANSWER: I do not know if others were also involved by him in that.

QUESTION: Thus, the funds you got from Neve were intended for anti-soviet activities and as fees to those carrying that out, is that right?

ANSWER: Yes, I acknowledge that.

QUESTION: Is Neve connected with Qualarello?

ANSWER: When I met Qualarello in Kerch in 1933, he said that he knows him since Neve serves Catholics working in all foreign embassies. Qualarello did not tell me how close that they were connected though.

“Read to me, written down correctly after me” /Alexander Frison/

Page 168

SUPPLEMENTARY INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of J.)

03 January 1936

(In presence of the Black Sea Fleet Prosecutor)

QUESTION: Do you have anything to supplement your depositions of 22 and 25 December 1935?

ANSWER: No supplements but I would like to just make some corrections. I did not send to Neve any information about political moods of my parishioners regarding the Soviet system ...

QUESTION: Where are the letters that you received from Neve?

ANSWER: To conceal my illegal correspondence with Neve I have destroyed them.

QUESTION: Besides the parishioners you spread information gotten from Neve’s literature among, who of the pastors received that as well?

ANSWER: Now I can recall just pastor Warth to whom I delivered several small icons to distribute among the parishioners ... assumed that I could deliver them to other pastors as well.

“Read to me, written down correctly after me” /Alexander Frison/

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)

04 January 1936

QUESTION:

Do you have anything to supplement your depositions given?

ANSWER:

I would like to correct that of 23 October 1935 regarding 40,000 Roubles gotten from Italian Trade Delegation as well as funds received from d'Erbini at our meeting during my ordaining bishop in Moscow. I gave untrue information then that an amount of 40,000 Roubles received from the Delegation Head Amadori was distributed among indigent Italian subjects in Kerch parish. When I received the money I asked Amadori if I may spend it for the church needs and got no direct answer, he just then said that spending it, is the matter of my conscience. And instead of distributing the money among those in need I have purchased a harmonium for the church. As for the funds that I got from d'Erbini that was considerably more than I indicated when questioned on 22 October 1935.

QUESTION:

Besides the money you got from Neve through Kolotuzov and Frison, Magdalena, did you get other amounts from him?

ANSWER:

Yes, besides the 3,500 Roubles received, I believe in 1931, I got from Neve... 7,000 more Roubles and this amount was delivered through some woman Susanna by name, can not recall her last name now.

QUESTION:

At what circumstances did this woman hand the 7,000 Roubles to you?

ANSWER:

According to terms we agreed with Neve, those sent by him would have to come to Anna Shimkus's flat situated at 3 Podgornaya St. in Simferopol, this address was supposed to be used for our correspondence as well. Having arrived from Moscow mentioned Susanna, came to Shimkus, stayed overnight there and next day came along with Shimkus to the church where Susanna handed the money mentioned wrapped up in paper. Susanna spent the next night at my flat. She then departed to Moscow and I have never seen her any more since then.

Interrogation suspended at 16:35 on 04 January 1936

Interrogation resumed at 13:00 On 05 January 1936

QUESTION:

When and at what circumstances did you and Neve settle to use the Shimkus's address? What purpose did you have for that?

ANSWER:

In about 1928 I wrote in one of my letters to Neve that if he needed to correspond with me his letters would be better directed to Shimkus to be delivered to me then. I also notified Shimkus of this agreement without letting her know about my links with Neve. All this was done to keep them secret.

QUESTION: How many letters were received through Shimkus's address?

ANSWER: Just one.

QUESTION: Set forth its content.

ANSWER: Can not recall now, after reading I destroyed it.

QUESTION: Why did you exactly chose Shimkus's address for secret correspondence with Neve?

ANSWER: I trusted Shimkus. From another side she is lonely, ordinary undistinguished woman, associates with nobody, but believers, to not attract somebody's attention or be under the NKVD authorities' suspicion so, that's why her address was most suitable for secret correspondence with Neve.

QUESTION: Did you agree with Neve, that his couriers who were sent to you would go through Shimkus's flat and with her assistance?

ANSWER: No.

QUESTION: Why did Susanna not come to you directly but to Shimkus flat then?

ANSWER: This way for Neve's couriers was not fixed at the agreement directly but such an opportunity was nevertheless meant ...

QUESTION: Who else besides Susanna was a courier of Neve and what other visitors to Crimea stayed at Shimkus's flat?

ANSWER: Nobody.

QUESTION: Who is Shimkus? Inform about all you know of her?

ANSWER: Her past is unknown. She's a Lithuanian, deeply believing person, during many years she worked at pastors as domestic servant. Until 1925 she served at pastor Schubert who was exiled from Odessa in 1934 (I believe by a court decision). During the last 2 years she worked as a charwoman at some professor residing at November Avenue.

"I specify that an amount I received from Amadori amounted to not 40,000 but 400,000 Roubles in soviet banknotes prior to establishment of stable soviet currency".

"Read to me, written down correctly after me" /A. Frison/

Page 176

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)

14 January 1936

QUESTION: In your letter dated 28 March 1934 regarding rendering Gudaitis relief you, alleged that your “hands were tied” recommended him to go on his own and use “his parishioners” for that. Explain these agreed phrases.

ANSWER: This letter was a reply to that of Gudaitis regarding rendering him relief, which was delivered to me through an unknown person who arrived from Sevastopol and going to Simferopol. I forwarded my letter to Gudaitis with this very person mentioned. Being able to give a pecuniary aid to Gudaitis but at the same time fearing to attract the organs’ suspicion towards both of us, besides 1,000 Roubles sent to him through my niece I avoided sending more especially by remittance mentioning that I have my hands tied ... As for advising to use a parishioner, I recommended Gudaitis to get in contact with Neve through the railroad man residing in Sevastopol and get a relief from Neve directly ...

QUESTION: Does this mean that Gudaitis knows the railroad man above?

ANSWER: I think yes.

QUESTION: On what grounds you can state this?

ANSWER: My observations are following: from those living in Sevastopol only Gudaitis knew my address so the woman who brought a packet with money from Neve got my address from him. Secondly, this woman is a parishioner of Gudaitis and sending a reliable person from the parish to me could be made through Gudaitis only so therefore, Gudaitis apparently handed the packet for me to that woman and thus, as I suppose she is known to Gudaitis as well.

“Read to me, written down correctly after me” /Alexander Frison/

Pages 179-180

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)

16 January 1936

QUESTION: Besides prayer books “The Most Saint Virgin’s Rosary”, what other religious and anti-soviet literature did you receive?

ANSWER: Other religious literature sent by Neve – Catechism, Breviary (prayer-book for priests) and Rubricella (church calendar) printed in Rome ... Breviaries were brought from Moscow to Odessa to be picked up by pastor Ihly (convicted) and further sent to me (can not recall through whom). Rubricella and Catechism were brought from Moscow by the nun mentioned above who also brought from Neve devotional things.

QUESTION: What of the literature received from Neve was forwarded to Gudaitis?

ANSWER: Can not recall now.

QUESTION: The investigation knows that you sent Rubricella to Sevastopol for Gudaitis. Name the person through whom you did that.

ANSWER: I did that through my parishioner's daughter Shura, Urina. As far as I know she worked as a saleswoman at a fancy-goods store which is at Pushkin Street, she is married now. Her mother resided then at 5 Factory Slope.

QUESTION: Where is Shura, Urina dwelling now?

ANSWER: According to her mother she along with her husband who is a parachute jumper left to northern region, do not know where exactly.

QUESTION: In your letter of 20 March 1924 addressed to Gudaitis you mentioned forwarding a pastor's letter to him. What is that about? How did you forward this letter to Gudaitis?

ANSWER: It regards a letter I received from Head of Apostolic Vicariate bishop Smetz who in 1924 sent me by post from his residence in Tiflis a letter for translation into several languages (it was written in Latin) and making public among Catholic parishioners in Crimea. Having translated into German I forwarded it to Gudaitis with instructions as to translation into Polish language and making it public among the parishioners. I can not remember now whether Gudaitis discharged the instructions then or not.

QUESTION: What matter was considered in the directive letter of Smetz?

ANSWER: It solely regarded a religious question of Catholic marriages.

QUESTION: On what plane was this question set?

ANSWER: Smetz accentuated keeping strictly to all the regulations of church marriages for Catholics and laid a special stress on responsibility for religious education and devotion to Catholic faith and church of parents and their children.

/Alexander Frison/

Pages 183-184

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)

31 January 1936

QUESTION: Did Cherviakovsky, Sophia an owner of Gudaitis's flat, ever visit you in Simferopol with commissions?

ANSWER: I met her at the church where she looked in when in Simferopol. She never paid a visit to my flat, nor can I recall if she ever addressed me concerning Gudaitis's errands.

QUESTION: Isn't Cherviakovsky that very woman who brought the Neve's packet from Sevastopol?

ANSWER: No.

QUESTION: Do you state it flatly?

ANSWER: Yes.

QUESTION: How did Cherviakovsky become known to you as an owner of Gudaitis's flat?

ANSWER: She told me about that when she visited the church in Simferopol about five years ago.

QUESTION: At what circumstances did she do that?

ANSWER: I assume that being an owner of Gudaitis's flat Cherviakovsky could visit the church on behalf of Gudaitis and send his kind regards.

QUESTION: How many times did you meet Cherviakovsky in Simferopol?

ANSWER: I believe twice, second time shortly after the first.

QUESTION: Did she bring letters from Gudaitis to you?

ANSWER: No ...

QUESTION: What recommendations can you give to the investigation as to searching for that woman who brought the packet to you?

ANSWER: According to her, she permanently lives in Sevastopol, of 53 - 55 years old, speaks Polish ...

"Read to me, written down correctly after me" /Alexander Frison/

Page 187-192

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)

09 February 1936

QUESTION: Do you know Wendel, Joseph?

ANSWER: Yes I made the acquaintance with him about 7 - 8 years ago.

QUESTION: How did you get acquainted with him? What do you know about him?

ANSWER: We met in Simferopol owing to his wife who being Russian converted her Russian Orthodox faith to that Catholic. Wendel is native of the village of Alexandrovka, Dzhankoi district ... We were on friendly terms ... I hid gold and silver goods at his flat ...

Interrogation interrupted at 14:30

Interrogation resumed at 22:30

QUESTION: As seen from the case materials... you, under the cover of religious propaganda, carried out anti-soviet activities. Do you plead guilty?

ANSWER: Yes.

QUESTION: On whose instructions you did that?

ANSWER: Never got any instructions.

QUESTION: That is not true. The investigation has a number of evidences to prove that you acted not according to your personal convictions only but as a member of organization so, once again – on whose instructions ...

ANSWER: I did not get any instructions.

QUESTION: In other words you want to say that your spiritual authorities are not responsible for your counter-revolutionary actions. Are you understood right?

ANSWER: Yes, that is right.

QUESTION: The investigation understands reasons for your insincerity then. Explain, for what purpose bishop Neve maintained contact with you not in an ordinary way but secretly using special couriers, why in particular you destroyed his directive letters, for what purpose you installed a secret short-wave radio set designed for reception of special broadcasts from Vatican, for what purpose bishop Neve illegally supplied you with counter-revolutionary propaganda literature specially printed abroad and sent that to you through illegal couriers? Do not all these facts prove directly that bishop Neve was a leader of your anti-soviet propaganda presence of which is being denied by you so persistently? Do you have something to object to these specific facts or not?

ANSWER: I feared to have an open contact with bishop Neve and because of that used secret couriers.

QUESTION: Why did you fear? Maybe because being busy with anti-soviet activity you apprehended that it might become disclosed? Yes or no?

ANSWER: No.

QUESTION: Give it a thought again because your answer is quite absurd.

ANSWER: I can not give an answer.

QUESTION: So, do you deny your initial answer or confirm? Explain yourself.

SILENCE: The accused keeps silence during 15 minutes, in this connection he gets next question.

QUESTION: Why did you destroy the letters that you received from Neve?

ANSWER: I did not want anybody to know about them.

QUESTION: This is not an answer but just tautology. Why did you fear of giving publicity to these letters forwarded to you with the use of secret couriers?
Answer sincerely.

ANSWER: I feared that my connection with Neve might become revealed.

QUESTION: Therefore, you considered this connection to be blameworthy, anti-state?
Yes or no?

ANSWER: Yes, I held that one should not have connection with Neve.

QUESTION: Why did you think so?

ANSWER: Because Neve holds a post of the French Embassy official and actually is an illegal representative of Vatican.

QUESTION: So, we have established that Neve is carrying out illegal i.e. anti-state activity in the USSR, we have then ascertained that you had a secret contact with Neve as a subordinate instance and in your turn conducted anti-soviet activity which was provided for by funds in foreign currency, illegal counter-revolutionary literature, etc. coming from Neve. Does it not result from all this that none other than bishop Neve was a leader of your anti-soviet actions? Answer quite sincerely.

ANSWER: No, Neve was not a leader of my anti-soviet activity

QUESTION: When searching your flat pieces of booklet titled “The Most Saint Virgin’s Rosary” were found. Who did you get these from and how?

ANSWER: These booklets were illegally delivered to me from Neve through a special courier. That was a woman aged about 35, lives in Moscow, Russian, her name is unknown to me. She visited me in 1930 - 1931 (can not recollect exactly), besides the booklets she then brought beads, small crosses and medallions.

QUESTION: Where was this booklet printed?

ANSWER: Abroad, as far as I could make out.

QUESTION: In this case, why the note is made on its first page stating that the booklet has been printed in Petrograd? What does this indicate?

ANSWER: The note was made to conceal reality i.e. the booklet of foreign origin.

QUESTION: As seen from the booklet content, it’s destined to instill confidence in short life of the Soviet power into Catholics living in the USSR. Is this understanding by the investigation right?

ANSWER: There is a paragraph in the booklet (page 13) that is to be interpreted this way exactly.

QUESTION: “... Infernal hordes to be killed ...” – who, is meant by this expression?

ANSWER: The Soviet power ...

QUESTION: Therefore, in this case we have a counter-revolutionary booklet printed abroad for a special anti-soviet propaganda among Catholic believers in the USSR. Yes or no?

ANSWER: Yes.

QUESTION: This booklet was sent to you by bishop Neve. Does not this fact prove exactly that Neve was a leader of your anti-soviet activity? Yes or no?

ANSWER: Yes, Neve led my anti-soviet activity in this case.

QUESTION: But, just yesterday you persistently denied any leadership of bishop Neve in your anti-soviet activity. That means you told lies.

ANSWER: I did not mean this fact then.

QUESTION: Not true. At this record very beginning, when asking the next question the investigation gave this fact exactly as an example.

ANSWER: I acknowledge that when supplying me with illegal counter-revolutionary literature Neve thereby carried out some kind of a leadership but when I answered originally I failed to take this fact into account.

QUESTION: For what purpose did Neve supply you with counter-revolutionary literature?

ANSWER: To undermine the Soviet power.

QUESTION: How did you use the booklet with this aim? What organization it was spread within?

ANSWER: There has been no organization. I handed it out to persons whose names are unknown to me.

/Interrogation interrupted because of late at night/

Questioned by /*Shtepa*/
At the presence of /*6 persons*/

Pages 193-194

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)
14 February 1936

QUESTION: How long do you know the church organ player Basiuk, K. J.?

ANSWER: Since about 1925.

QUESTION: How much did he get for this work?

ANSWER: He played free of charge, on Sundays and holidays.

QUESTION: In what interrelations you were with the organ player Basiuk?

ANSWER: I was on good terms with him.

QUESTION: Did you often visit Basiuk's flat? Whom with?

ANSWER: Yes, I visited Basiuk on his invitations along with my niece Magdalena Frison about 3 times a year on holidays to be treated to tea and a snack. Basiuk discontinued inviting me any more since about 1933 because his economic conditions became poorer then. I also pretty often called on Basiuk alone, on church matters.

QUESTION: How often did Basiuk visit you at your flat?

ANSWER: The same, 2 - 3 times a year on my invitations on holidays, he came to visit me along with his wife. I do not remember him coming to me alone.

QUESTION: What did you talk about with Basiuk during your conversations?

ANSWER: Mainly about church matters. Moreover, Basiuk told me that he wishes to go to Poland since he can not find a use for himself as an organ player here ...

QUESTION: Did Basiuk's family have contacts abroad?

ANSWER: His wife told me that she got the Polish magazine "Blameless Knight" from her relatives ... I read its issues during about 2 years running as well ... Their contents were of religious nature ... Polish national anthem was appended there as well as small maps of Poland within its old limits including Vitebsk, Minsk, etc.

QUESTION: Did you render Basiuk any pecuniary aid?

ANSWER: Yes, I or my niece brought some products to them periodically, flour in particular. In the summer of 1935 I gave his wife 50 Roubles of money.

"Read to me, written down correctly after me" /Alexander Frison/

Pages 197-202

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)

16 February 1936

QUESTION: Which Catholic villages formed your parish? Whom do you know to be members of church councils?

ANSWER: My parish consisted of Crimean villages of Bulganak (chairman of the church council Vickenty Dembrovsky), Dortkul, Dzhamin, Ackdzha, Turash, Alexandrovka, Tsarequichy, Karamin, Dulat, Alatai, Dzhaichy and Rosental. Joseph Natum and Wendelin Eichebraun, (both now exiled) were chairmen of the councils in Turash and Rosental..

QUESTION: By what means and how often did you maintain contacts with these villages?

ANSWER: Prior to 1931 I only traveled to the villages of my parish – Bulganak and Turash. The rest of them fell to my lot after the pastors’ arrests. In 1926 I visited Alexandrovka and Karamin just once each. Tsarequichy – several times. Since 1931, people came to Simferopol by themselves for their religious needs.

QUESTION: It’s established that you received representatives of the village parishes who applied to you for advice regarding getting “Hitler’s aid” and you explained how they should do that ...

ANSWER: Yes, I confirm this information ...

QUESTION: Name those who did apply ...

ANSWER: From Bulganak – convict Schneider’s wife Sebastiana, the former book-keeper of the SelPO (village consumers’ co-operative). Also, Nicolaus Weber (now convicted), and the wife of Nicolaus Neigum, who said that they received the aid mentioned. Nicolaus Weber visited the church and confessed, I will not talk about confessions since it is confidential and not to be made public.

From the village of Dzhamin – Matthaus Martaller, Matthaus Feist and his father. From Akldzha – Alexander Duck, came to get married. From Tsarequichy – Philomena Neubauer. From Karamin – Maria Schaefer, her husband was executed by the Reds in 1921, her son Peter came in 1934 to be married, he was a former member of the Young Communist League, now works in Simferopol as a book-keeper, he also came to the church to confess.

From Alatai – Joseph Erler. From Rosental – Wendelin Eichebraun and Bertha Horner, I talked to Bertha about the aid while as for the rest of those above – can not recall now.

QUESTION: When did you have a meeting with Matthaus Feist? ... Who is Joseph Erler?

ANSWER: Read the “Kolnische Zeitung” ...

QUESTION: It is therefore established that you ...

ANSWER: Yes I confirm ... I favoured the spreading of “Hitler’s aid” and consider this fact to be an illegal counter-revolutionary activity ...

QUESTION: To which villages did Anton Gotselich travel on your instructions?

ANSWER: I never sent Gotselich ...

QUESTION: Did Gotselich sell icons on your instructions?

ANSWER: I never instructed him on that ...

“Have read the record, written down correctly after me” /A. Frison/

Pages 203-206

DEPOSITIONS: (of the accused FRISON, Alexander son ofo Johann)
16 February 1936

QUESTION: ... Who is Sebastian Feist residing with in Berlin? ...
ANSWER: ... acting rector ... corresponded with Feist ... In 1925 received 300
Roubles from Feist for medical treatment ... Feist’s relatives ...

“Have read the record, written down correctly after me” /A. Frison/

Pages 207-212

DEPOSITIONS: (of the accused FRISON, Alesander son of Johann)
01 March 1936

QUESTION: Do you know Kolesinsky, who was convicted in 1933? Did you give him
any instructions for his travel to the Consulate of Poland in Moscow? ...
How many times did Basiuk travel to the Consulate? ...
ANSWER: Yes ...

“Have read the record, written down correctly after me” /A. Frison/

Pages 213-215

DEPOSITIONS: (of the accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)
03 March 1936

QUESTION: At the search, a note written in the Italian language was found with a call-
sign of one of the foreign radio stations. To whom does paper belong and,
from whom and where was it received?

ANSWER: This document belongs to me personally. It contains a wave-length and
time of Vatican’s broadcasting. I got it from Neve through my niece
Magdalena FRISON who, on my instructions, during her last visit to
Moscow verbally appealed to Neve asking to supply me with that kind of
information so she brought a letter which contained it ...

QUESTION: What was the purpose that Neve sent this document to you ?

ANSWER: I am not aware of Neve's purpose, but it was me who requested this document to be send... because I wanted to listen to the Vatican's radio, because that interested me particularly in the course of Vatican's news and religious programs.

QUESTION: What measures exactly did you take after getting this document from Neve?

ANSWER: The wave-length mentioned could be received by a short-wave receiver only and I already had an adaptor, but nevertheless was not able to get any short-wave station although I worked much over that.

QUESTION: Where and from whom did you acquire a short-wave receiver?

ANSWER: I didn't have a separate short-wave receiver, but I tried to adjust my long-wave one to getting short waves. For that, using radio-magazine description I tried to reconstruct my long-wave receiver by means of an adaptor mentioned. However, I did not succeed in that.

QUESTION: What was the main purpose of the reconstruction above?

ANSWER: Receiving short-wave radio stations and especially that of Vatican.

QUESTION: Why did you destroy a part of the document which you received from Neve with his instructions for receiving the Vatican's broadcasts and his signature upon that?

ANSWER: ... to conceal my contact with Neve ... I snipped off an upper part of it ...

Pages 216-217back

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)

10 March 1936

QUESTION: When searching the church, liturgy books were withdrawn published in Regensburg, Rome and Belgium ... To whom did these four books belong ?

ANSWER: Two of them published in Germany belonged to the church, the rest – to me.

QUESTION: How did you get the books?

ANSWER: I do not know about the church books. The rest I got from Neve through my niece and the nun I told about before ...

QUESTION: All of the books mentioned include additional pasted in sheets... How did you get them? ...

ANSWER: ...from Neve through special couriers ... I did paste them in myself ...

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)
13 March 1936

QUESTION: We know that in the German Catholic colonies a counter-revolutionary anti-soviet activity was carried out and you personally bore a close relation to its organization. What is the essence of this counter-revolutionary work and what part did you take in it?

ANSWER: I have to admit my close relation to a counter-revolutionary anti-soviet activity ... and my participation in it ... during my visits to the colonies I agitated, mainly among those well off, against the Soviet power and its measures conducted in the countryside ... In the talks usually held at wayside flats where I stayed, we discussed land problems, that of collective farm building, soviet constitution, etc. I always stressed that laws and actions of the Soviet power were directed against the interests of working colonists especially the more prosperous ones deprived of land property and disfranchised. I confirmed and grounded this conclusion by the fact of nationalization of colonists' land property conducted without its redemption which is not just, nor is it so to disfranchise honest toilers ... the collective farm movement is placed as a heavy burden especially on women working in collective farms excessively, and this is breaking national traditions and the church doctrine regarding countryside according to which a woman has to do with three things only – church, family and kitchen ... I called to save families and bring up children in the spirit of religion ... I don't remember other topics but think that when discussing them I also agitated against the Government's policy and measures since I have never been a supporter of the soviet system. I have to also confess, my counter-revolutionary anti-soviet activity in German colonies favoured building up Catholics' hostile attitude to the Soviets. I felt that seeing respect the parishioners had for me ...

QUESTION: What was your direct part in spreading of "Hitler's aid"?

ANSWER: ... I used my contacts with emigrant Sebastian Feist, his relatives living in Crimea and the Czech-Slovak subject Robert Lerich, who in 1927 left Simferopol for Berlin. I informed him of several colonists' addresses – Weber, Beno, Beisler ... Wendel, Snarsky ... they received Marks remitted from Germany... Gotselich wrote letters to some fascist organizations in Germany I gave him addresses of ...

QUESTION: Did you get the "aid" for yourself?

ANSWER: Yes, several times through Feist's sister Ereider who wrote letters to her brother, he arranged sending German Marks to me through the "Fast & Co" company ...

QUESTION: ... Name those involved in a counter-revolutionary work in German Catholic colonies. Mention known facts of that.

ANSWER: ... pastor Warth ... Joseph Erler ... Andreas Beisler, his sons-in-law – Richard Feist and Edmund Feist ... Nicolaus Weber, Nicolaus Burn ...

Interrogation interrupted 1:00am 14 March 1936

Interrogation resumed 11:00am 14 March 1936

... I have to name those having anti-soviet attitude of mind ... Jacob Kruk, Bertha Horner, Wendelin Eisenbraun, Philipp Kelsch ... Maria Schaefer, Johann Schaefer, Peter Schaefer, Joseph Hauck ... Anton Hiller, Peter Haschek, Anton Haschek, Philomena Neubauer ... Andreas Beser, Klara Feist, Georg Feist, Anton Feist, Edmund Feist, Richard Feist, Peter Beiser, Rafael Beiser, Michael Beiser ... Monika Warth, Gruhnwald (churchwarden), church organ player (can not recall his name) ... Rukgaber, Anton Koch (former organ player), 3 Duck brothers, Rafael Rukgaber ... Joseph Neigum, Haag (deceased), Nicolaus Neigum, 4 Haag brothers (reside in Eupatoria, one of them is a medical doctor).

NOTE: My answer regarding my influence upon building up the colonists' hostile attitude of mind to the Soviets is fixed not quite correct ... I just wanted to say that I did that because I enjoyed their respect.

Pages 232-233back

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)
15 March 1936

Interrogation started 9:00pm

QUESTION: Is your niece Magdalena FRISON aware of facts of your illegal counter-revolutionary activity conducted in the German Catholic colonies? In particular, your contacts with Neve?

ANSWER: Regarding my counter-revolutionary activities in the villages – I do not remember if I ever told her about that. All the rest is known to her i.e. about foreign currency, literature and devotional items because on my instructions she travelled to Moscow twice to visit with Neve, moreover I confided that to her.

QUESTION: Does she know about your organizing part in spreading of fascist "aid"? ...

ANSWER: Yes, she knows that I applied to Lerich and supplied some parishioners with addresses of fascist relief organizations. She also knows that I got

such “aid” for myself. I think that she also knows that I informed Sebastian Feist of my address through Ereiser.

QUESTION: When we questioned Magdalena FRISON, we found her to be not sincere. How can you explain such a behavior of her?

ANSWER: It must be confessed open-heartedly, we arranged before my arrest that in case I am arrested and she is questioned, she would make excuses i.e. tell that she knows nothing. That settlement between us regarded sending addresses to Lerich in Germany for getting “aid” (to conceal this fact we agreed to, both her and me, to never confess). We also agreed to never say about governor Tatishtchev’s dwelling in our house in Kerch during the Whites in 1919 and by the way, I did conceal that in 1925 in connection with the case of my relative White officer Wendelin STROH.

QUESTION: Why did you conceal the dwelling of Tatishtchev in your house?

ANSWER: To conceal my connection to the Whites.

Interrogation completed 9:48pm

Pages 234-241back

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)

15 March 1936

Interrogation started 9:50pm

QUESTION: It’s known that in addition to the German Catholic villages, you were an organizing point of association of German Catholics in Simferopol, that under the pretence of family entertainments you arranged assemblages of persons having counter-revolutionary attitude of mind and discussed political issues there. Do you confirm that?

ANSWER: Yes ...

QUESTION: Enumerate such cases and name those attended then.

ANSWER: I don’t remember exactly how many times such assemblages took place ... In the period of 1925-1928 they were arranged and held at my flat by the church, 8 Salgirnaya (Kirov now) Street. During the years of 1929 – 1933 at 11 Feodosia Rd and at my new flat at Maxim-Gorky Street. 1925–1929 – refreshments arranged for members of the church choir, close acquaintances also invited. Usually 20-25 people total attended, can recall some of them: Anton Walter, Jacob Kellerman, Robert Lerich, Franz Schneider, Lukas Braksmeier, Basiuk with wife, Elizabetha Filkenstein ... Italians – Mafioni, Maria Dipindo, Lukrecia Logoluzo ... Alexander Slavinsky, pastor Lang, Joseph Braksmeier ... Warth along with two his brothers ... pastor Jungkind, Navachik, Erler ...

Interrogation interrupted 11:40pm

Interrogation resumed 9:00pm 16 March 1936

QUESTION: Who are those mentioned above, what are their past and current political convictions?

ANSWER: Anton Walter, Lucia Walter, Jacob Kellerman, ... August Fuchs ...

Interrogation completed 24:00

Pages 242-252

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Alexander son of .Johann)
25 March 1936

QUESTION: ... Metzger ... Graf ...

ANSWER: ... information about resettlement of Jews in Crimea ... By the town of Eupatoria, the Jews received good lands that had earlier belonged to German colonists ...

Pages 253-256

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)
26 March 1936

QUESTION: On 25 March you deposed that pastor Graf visited the Consulate of Germany in Moscow to solve a problem of the exchanging of the 1918 Germany's military loan for internal loans and that Graf had the authority of creditors – German colonists of Crimea. Was that made legally or illegally then?

ANSWER: ... I think that was done legally ...

QUESTION: What kind of activity did you carry out among the creditors to advocate the loans exchange?

ANSWER: At Kalinovsky's request, I wrote and sent a letter to the Consulate of Germany in Odessa regarding the exchange of military bonds of his father-in-law for that of internal loan ... I consider that help I gave Kalinovsky to be some kind of propaganda ...

QUESTION: What do you think of all the – activity of pastor Graf as a representative of the creditors in German Consulate, your non-resistance to this activity of him and finally, your concrete assistance given to Kalinovsky ...?

ANSWER: I consider activities of both Graf and me ... as help to Germany and activities incompatible with a status of the USSR citizen because all that was directed exactly against the foundations of the Soviet state ...

Pages 257-266

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)
29 March 1936

QUESTION: What political questions exactly and on what plane were discussed during visits of Alter, Warth, Jungkind, Braksmeier and others to you?

ANSWER: Situation in the countryside mainly ... German villager were becoming poorer, life is worse than before the revolution. From this it was concluded that collective farm building policy is a failure ... Problems of religion and the government's attitude to it ... dissatisfaction ... the government struggles against religion using propaganda, administrative pressure (abolition of Holidays) ...

QUESTION: Were there any cases of discussing the Soviet government's legislative enactments in the area of national policy and industrialization and legal rules for working class in the USSR?

ANSWER: On my own initiative a question was raised as for interrelations of the USSR and German government which to a certain degree touched upon a national problem ... abnormal relations between the governments affect Germans living in the USSR, the Soviet one definitely distrusts them and that induces repressions of Germans. Warth and Jungkind shared these views ... I said that working people in the USSR are in place of slaves i.e. without rights as at serfdom, attached to manufacturing having no right to on their own accord change a place of work ... We never discussed questions of industrialization ...

QUESTION: You definitely know that the working class is a predominant force in the USSR with labour to be a matter of glory and honour ... policy of attaching working personnel is directed to elimination of manpower fluctuation, wage-leveling and depersonalization ...

Do you acknowledge your talks on legal state of the USSR working class to be provocative, slanderous and counter-revolutionary?

ANSWER: In that case, yes ...

QUESTION: When you discussed the policy in the countryside ... what practical conclusions were made ...?

ANSWER: No practical conclusions were made ... my point of view regarding development of agriculture is conservation of individual farms of colonist kind i.e. of capitalist way of development. Although I'm not aware of opinions of those who visited me but nevertheless, I think that they are supporters of this latter way.

QUESTION: Did you discuss events in Germany in connection with Hitler's advent to power ...? If so on what plane ...?

ANSWER: Just with Walter and pastor Warth when they called on me ... before accession to power, during one session in the Reichstag, Hitler was removed from its hall for mean behavior ... mainly we talked about a trial over Dimitrov and others ... As for me personally I didn't have a firm opinion regarding German government's internal and foreign policy, before the Leipzig trial I sympathized with Hitler's viewpoint but when the trial revealed an element of falsity and German government came up against the Catholic Church, I changed my mind and abandoned taking interest in Hitler's policy.

QUESTION: Which questions of German policy exactly did you sympathize with?

ANSWER: Can not answer this question.

QUESTION: Why?

ANSWER: I do not remember the grounds of the sympathy.

QUESTION: ... How do you treat the German regime with respect... to the communist party and working class?

ANSWER: Regarding preservation of church and religion – I justify it.

Interrogation interrupted at 3 pm on 29 March 1936

Interrogation resumed at 10 am on 1 April 1936

QUESTION: Does it not mean that in the first place you justify a regime of fascist dictatorship in Germany for conservation of imperialist bourgeoisie's political power?

ANSWER: I think that church and religion can be preserved by any bourgeoisie's power of non-fascist model as well.

QUESTION: ... Can you recall now on what grounds your attitude to Hitler's policy was based upon?

ANSWER: Yes, I can recall now. I first justified Hitler's accession to power and his policy because I thought that it was securing prosperity of German national economy and preservation of European culture. Afterwards, when this policy actually proved to be wrong I got disappointed with it.

QUESTION: ... You considered the Soviet government's policy as that of distrust and repressions based on the two governments' relations ... you thought the USSR German population an integral part of German nation as the whole having common fate entirely depending on German government's foreign and internal policy. Are you understood correct?

ANSWER: Yes ...

QUESTION: Does this mean that you and your encirclement in the persons of those mentioned consider German population in the USSR a component of German nation having interests linked with Germany?

ANSWER: I consider it belonging to German nation which majority is being united by German state. As for Warth and Jungkind, I do not know their understanding of this problem.

QUESTION: ... When visiting German colonies, how did you explain the soviet government's national policy, in particular regarding arrests of counter-revolutionary kulak nationalistic elements ... How did you express your point of view on this matter?

ANSWER: Never did that ...

QUESTION: ... Hitler's "aid" ... propaganda of nationalistic ideas ... spreading of anti-soviet literature to intrude into believers' minds an idea of inevitability of downfall of the soviets ... protection of German kulaks by attempts to provoke intervention into the USSR internal affairs ... counter-revolutionary fascist activities carried out under cover of religious work ... What concrete subject was pursued, based upon your own political convictions or on the instructions from without?

ANSWER: Yes I acknowledge ... in fact carried out counter-revolutionary fascist nationalistic activities among Germans which was not connected with any instructions from without though. I just followed my will to give material help to Germans living in the USSR and in spiritual area – strengthen national traditions, culture and religion among them.

Interrogation completed at 1am.

Pages 267-271

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)
06 April 1936

QUESTION: Among those who carried out counter-revolutionary ... you named Joseph Erler. On whose instructions he ...

ANSWER: ... We were in touch on just religious questions ... Erler informed me about the situation in Alatai ...

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)

10 April 1936

QUESTION: Did you illegally make and distribute radio receivers?

ANSWER: Besides a short-wave receiver I made for my personal use, I also assembled two more receivers one of which I gave to pastor Warth as a gift and another one, with his advice, exchanged for foods with Catholic Czech from the village of Tsarequichy. I do not know if this way of making and distribution can be qualified illegal since I'm not aware of any regulations, as for registration of making and sale of radio receivers by private persons.

QUESTION: Besides you, who else did assemble and distribute radio-receivers in German Catholic colonies in Crimea?

ANSWER: Pastor Warth and German teacher Georg Hirsch, but as far as I know, they both made receivers for their personal use only.

QUESTION: Name persons whom you, Warth and Hirsch consulted with when assembling the receivers and those who supplied you, Warth and Hirsch with technical materials and parts for them.

ANSWER: As for me, I consulted on these questions with August Fuchs's son Victor who worked as a technician at the telegraph office in Simferopol, and the People's Commissariat of Land Resources of Crimea cartographer Anatoly Chirkin. As for Warth and Hirsch, I do not know who advised them. I have to say that when making and designing the receivers, I and Warth shared our opinions and used the radio-magazine I subscribed to. I think that Warth and Hirsch followed this way as well.

QUESTION: When the receivers mentioned were made and distributed? When did Warth and Hirsch do that?

ANSWER: I made the two receivers mentioned in about 1932/1933. Warth began doing that on his arrival to Crimea, I believe in 1930. As for Hirsch, he started to go in for this earlier.

QUESTION: Name the German Catholic colonies where the radio receivers, in particular of your making were used.

ANSWER: There were two receivers of my assembly in the village of Tsarequichy, a Czech man whose name is forgotten and Warth had them. Hirsch lived in that area before 1932 as well. I do not know whether other individuals also had radio receivers in other Catholic villages.

QUESTION: For what purpose were the receivers distributed by you and used by Warth and Hirsch?

ANSWER: For amateur listening to broadcasting.

QUESTION: ... Earlier you deposed that you listened to programs of Vatican's broadcasting station and propagandized them ... Warth used the receiver for collective listening to Hitler's speeches for the purpose of fascist propaganda ... The investigation is demanding your sincere confession and clear answer for what purpose ...

ANSWER: ... Distribution of the receivers was not connected with their use for any kind of propaganda, I assembled them as an amateur at Warth's request. The short-wave one was used by me for just religious propaganda. I think and assume that Warth might use his receiver with the purpose of counter-revolutionary propaganda ...

QUESTION: ... Did you listen to Hitler's speeches?

ANSWER: Yes, I received programs from Germany and at the beginning I listened to his speech once.

QUESTION: Who was present during your listening to programs from Germany and particularly during that Hitler's speech mentioned?

ANSWER: Nobody ...

QUESTION: Who of your Simferopol acquaintances has radio-sets to listen to programs from Germany?

ANSWER: ... Chirkin and Fuchs ...

QUESTION: What can you tell about teacher Hirsch?

ANSWER: Got to know him in 1909 ... First time met Hirsch in Simferopol at Walter's flat, then in Tsarequichy at Anton Hiller's ... Hirsch made Walter's acquaintance in Tsarequichy where Walter served as a church kuster ... When meeting Hirsch we talked about radio's only, I confirm this flatly ...

Pages 281-286

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann)

13 April 1936

QUESTION: In the aggregate, it's established by the investigation that organized counter-revolutionary nationalistic fascist activities were carried out in German Catholic colonies of Crimea, by part of Catholic Church active members permanently connected with you as well as pastors subordinated to you, to be under your ideological leadership and influence. This work hostile towards the Soviet power was conducted in accordance with the

aims you set during conversations, anti-soviet statements, when exchanging opinions on questions of the Soviet government's policy and its arrangements with the Church active members and pastors, and it agrees with the anti-soviet activity you carried out personally (distribution of fascist aid, propaganda of nationalistic ideas, agitation against collective farms, etc.). Thus, the investigation is establishing that you have been an ideological inspirer and actual organizer of the Catholic Church active members' counter-revolutionary activities. Do you acknowledge this?

ANSWER: No.

QUESTION: Earlier you acknowledged that you and pastors subordinated to you under cover of religious activity actually carried out counter-revolutionary ... counter-revolutionary activities of Rosental believers led by Wendelin Eisenbraun, Bertha Horner, Joseph Erler and others. Does that not prove the fact of you to be an organizer and ideological leader of all these activities?

ANSWER: I led these people ideologically with the aim of protection and propaganda of religion, I can acknowledge this. I also acknowledge that by my anti-soviet activity I had influence on them to form their hostile attitude towards the power and its measures. However, I have never been the one heading their counter-revolutionary fascist activities.

QUESTION: To your opinion, who then headed the Catholic Church counter-revolutionary activities in Crimea?

ANSWER: That arose from the world outlook of headed by me... Church representatives and the encirclement.

QUESTION: ... German Embassy ... Graf ... Metzger ... Kappes ... political-economic information ... Why did the Embassy of Germany pass such a confidence in you then? Was this activity of you, Graf and Kappes on executing tasks set by the Embassy, connected with the purpose of protection and propaganda of religion?

ANSWER: No ... With my assistance, Graf supplied the Embassy with information about land situation in Crimea and doing that we followed the idea that on the grounds of that info the government of Germany could stand in defense of those Germans in Crimea deprived of land because of the Jewish settlements ... Kappes also informed Rome about me i.e. my well-being and readiness to get a rank of bishop. I think that the German Embassy's confidence was grounded upon the fact that we are German priests.

Pages 287-293

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of .Johann)

10 May 1936

QUESTION: Do you know Philomena Neubauer and Anton Gaschek? ... Was Patsevich one of those whom Neubauer put up at ? ...

ANSWER: Yes I know them ... I do not know ...

Pages 294-295back

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, A .J.)

5 July 1936

QUESTION: Do you know a German nationalistic organization “Union of Germans of Aryan Race” or its branches “Sonemcola” and “Union of Black Sea Germans”?

ANSWER: Never heard about them before.

QUESTION: Do you know pastors Wagner, Fauth, Schubert, Neigum and Zysko?

ANSWER: Yes, I know them all.

QUESTION: Where, when and under what circumstances did you meet each of them separately? Were they subordinated to you as the diocese administrator?

ANSWER: Yes, they were all subordinates to me through Krushinsky directly. Wagner had a parish in Mariupol, Fauth – in a village nearby Yenakiewo, Schubert and Neigum had parishes in Odessa, Zysko – in Nikolayev ...

QUESTION: Why did Neigum come to Simferopol?

ANSWER: He brought 300 American dollars from Krushinsky and written powers as for handing over the administration to me.

QUESTION: Do you know Weinzetel, Joseph son of Matthaus?

ANSWER: Yes, I know Weinzetel, he was a kuster in the parish of Marxstadt ...

Pages 296-297

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, A .J.)

27 July 1936

QUESTION: Do you confirm that you got a map in Polish language with a Polish chauvinistic propagandistic anthem attached and an issue of Polish religious magazine from Basiuk?

ANSWER: Can not confirm that because do not remember well ...

QUESTION: Then why did you say so when questioned on 14 February of this year?
ANSWER: I associated the map origin with a magazine “Blameless Knight” Basiuk gave it to me for reading.

QUESTION: Do you assume that you might have gotten the map from someone else?
ANSWER: Yes ...

Pages 298-299back

INTERROGATION RECORD (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann) – continuation.
1 September 1933

ANSWER: After the revolution I had a chance to become acquainted with counter-revolutionary Schneider, Peter son of Nicolaus who arrived to Kerch in 1919 when Crimea was occupied by the Soviet army up to the Kerch peninsula. I told him that the school was vacant and he can put up in it. He stayed there and I practically did not see him since then, because he mostly dwelled in town and rarely stayed overnight in the school. After about two weeks he came disguised as a Tatar and said he’s going to go by boat along with some officers to the south coast of Crimea to investigate a state of powers and troops. I advised that as not a serviceman he should give it up and mind his own business, but he did not listen to me and left without saying good bye. I did not see him again after that.
Besides Schneider, Peter son of Nicolaus, Franz son of Nicolaus Schneider who escaped from the Soviet power who also came to Kerch and stayed at the school. Lukas son of Joseph Braksmeier as well, he was my school mate and knew me well from childhood, so it was of that reason for him to apply to me. As a relative of mentioned persons he could turn their attention to me also. Furthermore, I was the only German Catholic in Kerch not counting one old woman, and knowing about my dwelling in Kerch they might turn towards me.
My foreign friends the Durante’s also were among my acquaintances, who to my mind did not share the Soviet power’s positions, as they have lost all their fortune ...

Page 300

RECORD
of announcement of preliminary investigation completion to the accused

Simferopol, 27 July 1936

... Accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann ... articles 58-4, 58-10, 58-11 ... concedes a right to look through all the investigation materials and solicit for supplementing the investigation with any new information ...

... The accused has not expressed his wish to supplement ...

... Accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann looked through the investigation materials personally during the period of 21 – 26 July 1936 ...

Pages 301-309

RECORD OF CONFRONTATION: (accused FRISON and GUDAITIS)

29 February 1936

QUESTION TO BOTH ACCUSED: The investigation has established that in 1934 bishop Neve by special secret means forwarded to the accused FRISON 200 dollars and a letter ... Do you acknowledge ...

FRISON's ANSWER: Yes ...

GUDAITIS's ANSWER: Yes, it really was delivered to FRISON through me, but I did not know about its contents.

QUESTION TO GUDAITIS: Through whom exactly did you forward the parcel from Sevastopol to Simferopol for FRISON?

ANSWER: I forwarded the letter to FRISON through a woman; I cannot recall her name now.

QUESTION TO FRISON: What are distinctive marks of that woman?

ANSWER: ... A Pole, about 55 years old ...

QUESTION TO GUDAITIS: So you committed delivery of the packet to a chance person?

ANSWER: Yes, to a chance person.

QUESTION TO FRISON: How do you appraise accused Gudaitis's behavior during the questioning?

ANSWER: It is hard, but I have to tell truth – it seems to me that pastor Gudaitis does not want to give away the lady that he sent to me then.

Pages 311-314

INTERROGATION RECORD: (witness Stroh, Maria daughter of Nikita)

14 December 1925

... In 1920 married cornet Stroh, Wendelin son of Wendelin, native of Kandel, Odessa ... Wendelin's uncle FRISON, Alexander son of Johann is a thorough counter-revolutionary

element ... FRISON lives at 8 Salgirnaya Street in Simferopol ...P. N. Schneider, F. N. Schneider, Fuchs, Braksmeier, and Walter met at FRISON's to discuss political topics ... FRISON actively agitated against the Soviets ... FRISON started to distrust me lately, offered my husband Wendelin to give me money to make me keep silent. I refused and said that I'll apply to the GPU ... Wendelin kept beating me while Alexander FRISON was staying close by and pushing my feet to my sides saying "stop pretending and stand up" ... the beating resulted in a premature birth ... I have lost my health for many years ahead and the one who is guilty in that is FRISON, who has ruined our lives. Now, he has summoned a conference of Crimean pastors, eight persons are to come and stay with him. They are all enemies of the Soviet power trying to hold their faith and wait for the power change. There are no Russian Catholics who would trust him, I was the first one to get into their midst to see them carrying out counter-revolutionary activities under cover of religion ...

Pages 315-317

INTERROGATION RECORD: (witness Braksmeier, Lukas son of Joseph)
30 December 1925

... 53 years old, native of Sulz, Odessa, resides at 29/4 Pushkin St., Simferopol ... brother; Johann, children; Joseph, Leo, and Robert ... brother-in-law Schneider, Peter son of Nicolaus, lives abroad ... FRISON and Schneider, Franz said that they had received a letter from Peter Schneider who resides in Konstantinopol ...

Pages 318-323back

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused Graf, Alexander son of Joseph)
19 August 1927

... 32 years old, native of Tonkoturovka, Samara province, residence – Rosental, Simferopol ... since 1919 – pastor in Odessa ... 1918 military loan ... Metzel ... Jewish settlements in Crimea ... pastor Jacob Schonfeld ... FRISON's niece Magdalena told that he speaks carelessly at meetings... Weinmeier ... Feuser ... Belmann ... Dietrich ... Zimmermann ... Baumtrog ... bishop Kessler ...

Pages 328-329

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused Walter, Anton son of Jacob)
15 September 1935

QUESTION: Who took part in assemblages arranged by FRISON? ...

ANSWER: 1926-1929 Easter and Christmas yearly parties ... Kellerman, Lerich, Schneider, Braksmeier, Basiuk, Mashevsky, Filkenstein, Laurikanets ... 1928 – 25th anniversary of priest activity – Roth, Neigum, Wolf, Waliser, Baumtrog, Kappes, Nold, Schonfeld, Gudaitis, Jungkind, Basiuk, Schneider, Braksmeier ...

Pages 340-347back

INTERROGATION RECORD: (witness Braksmeier (nee FRISON), Catharina daughter of Georg)
11 February 1936

... born in 1905 in Baden, Odessa, resides at 2 Rosa-Luxemburg St., Kerch ... uncle FRISON, Alexander son of Johann (arrested by the NKVD), sister Magdalena daughter of Georg (under arrest), mother FETSCH, Rosalia daughter of Ambrose (lives in Kerch along with), brother Johann son of Georg (accountant in Cherson), brother Ignatius son of Georg (served for the White Army, now in France) ...

QUESTION: Besides those named, do you have other relatives?

ANSWER: Yes, first cousins living in Ambrosiewo, Odessa and some doing so in Odessa. I have no others.

QUESTION: Under what circumstances did your brother Ignatius get to France?

ANSWER: Apparently he evacuated along with the White Army, first to Germany and then on to France.

QUESTION: Who corresponds with him and when did you get the latest letter from him?

ANSWER: My mother does, but she has not gotten letters from him for a long time. As for me, I have never corresponded with him.

QUESTION: What was your sister Magdalena's occupation and how did she get to pastor FRISON?

ANSWER: In 1916 my uncle FRISON moved from Saratov to Kerch where he got a Catholic parish and that very year he called my sister Magdalena to come to him to keep his house.

QUESTION: How long did you live with pastor FRISON?

ANSWER: From 1916 until 1932 while studying in Simferopol and Kerch.

QUESTION: Who of pastors and other clergymen visited FRISON during that period of time?

ANSWER: ... Warth, Jungkind, Schonfeld, Nold, Kalatozov, Roth, bishop Smetz from Caucasus, a Georgian pastor ... a Russian priest converted to

Catholic faith ... pastor Schubert from Simferopol to take a mass in Kerch and visit Simferopol colonies then ...

QUESTION: Who of the parishioners visited FRISON most often in Kerch and Simferopol?

ANSWER: ... Pargelli ... Mafioni ... Mikuchanis ... Magaluzo ... Basiuk ... Gotselich ... Ridvanovsky ... my father-in-law Braksmeier, Lukas son of Joseph ... Schneider, F. N. ... Geroskint ... Tobzhinsky ... Walter ... Lerich ... a church choir gathered at 1926-1927 Christmas – Savadsky, Walter, Bzhizhensky, Basiuk's wife, Lurosik and others ...

QUESTION: Did your sister Magdalena ever make a request for you to do any of FRISON's errands? ... Did FRISON give you anything for keeping?

ANSWER: No ...

QUESTION: Who, on instructions of your sister and FRISON, visited you after their arrest?

ANSWER: Nobody, only my husband's sister Geraskiat, Barbara, daughter of Lukas who said that according to his house-owner that FRISON has been arrested.

QUESTION: When, why and how many times did FRISON come to visit you in Kerch?

ANSWER: He came 3 - 4 times a year to serve the parish. Stayed with us until 1935, but afterwards... just dined with us, because of annoying things that happened with my husband.

QUESTION: Who came to visit FRISON during his stay with you?

ANSWER: Nobody. On invitations he himself visited Saltykevich, Angelo Kassanelli, Mafioni and Diterm.

QUESTION: Are you a member of "Rosary" society? If so, since what year?

ANSWER: No, I am not.

QUESTION: Where exactly did your brother Ignatius serve for the White Army?

ANSWER: I do not know ...

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75157-ФП

Pages 2-10

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg)
26 October 1935

FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg, born in 1897 in Baden, Odessa, resides in Simferopol ... passport KA №. 131311 issued by Simferopol department of Militia on 14 August 1933, housewife, social origin – from kulaks (parents owned up to 200 dessiatines of land, a house and farm implements), father is deceased, mother lives with Magdalena's brother Johann, before the revolution – housewife, lived with uncle, after the revolution – housewife as well. Body of the family – maid having relatives: mother FRISON, Rosalia daughter of Ambrose, lives with brother in Cherson, dependant; brother FRISON, Johann son of Georg, lives in Cherson, arrested; sister Braksmeier (née Frison), Catharina daughter of Georg, housewife, lives with husband; brother FRISON, Ignatius son of Georg, lives abroad, address unknown; education – elementary, village school ...

QUESTION: Since when have you been living in Simferopol?
ANSWER: In Simferopol since 1925, when I moved from Kerch along with my uncle FRISON, Alexander son of Johann.

QUESTION: Which other towns did you visit in going to Simferopol during this period?
ANSWER: Besides my travel in 1927 - 1928 to my mother in Odessa and in 1934 to my sister in Kerch, I had made no other travels.

QUESTION: You are telling a lie, you also travelled to Moscow and not only once. Why are you concealing it?
ANSWER: Yes, I can recollect my visit to Moscow at the beginning of this year on my uncle's instructions.

QUESTION: On what instructions exactly? To whom?
ANSWER: My uncle sent me to Moscow for anointing oil, which I got from the French church specifically from bishop Neve.

QUESTION: What did you convey to Neve from FRISON then?

ANSWER: Apples and FRISON's verbal request for giving anointing oil for occasional religious rites.

QUESTION: The investigation is warning once again, that you must tell truth. How many travels ...? What was brought forth and back ...?

ANSWER: Above I told lies. The first time that I visited there was in 1933 or 1934 and then at the beginning of 1935. No other instructions besides bringing anointing oil from Neve ... When I got the oil, Neve also gave me 200 Roubles for expenses.

QUESTION: You are still telling lies. The investigation demands ...

ANSWER: In both cases Neve gave me cash for FRISON, first time 1,000 Roubles and 500 Roubles another time. Moreover, he asked to tell FRISON that the Pope is not very well with funds and not being able to come to Crimea he would like to see FRISON in Moscow.

QUESTION: Did you get letters from Neve for FRISON?

ANSWER: No.

QUESTION: Besides you, who else travelled to Neve for FRISON?

ANSWER: FRISON never told me about that.

QUESTION: Where did you stay when travelling to Moscow?

ANSWER: The first time I stopped at some French woman, Blansh whose flat is in the French church yard. The second time... at my acquaintance Plekhanov, who lives in a lodge by Bukharin's summer cottage, which is close to the station of Skhodny.

QUESTION: What do you know about Blansh? ... Who are the Plekhanov's?

ANSWER: ... FRISON gave me Blansh's address and advised to stay with her ... Plekhanova nee Alerov is a Pole, who earlier had lived in Simferopol ...

QUESTION: Name those who arrived to Simferopol to see FRISON.

ANSWER: ... Catholic priest Mikhalev from Leningrad ... dean of Polish church in Moscow Lupinovich ... two others from Sevastopol, one of them having an arm amputated and another dressed in naval uniform ... from Odessa – pastor Neigum, pastor Fluch (arrested two years ago), unknown Pole with a letter from d'Erbini ...

QUESTION: Did you give your consent to going to Moscow to visit Neve?

ANSWER: I cried and did not want to go, but then agreed.

QUESTION: Therefore, you knew the purpose that FRISON sent you to Neve?

ANSWER: I did not know that my travel was connected with getting money from Neve, FRISON just told that I had to get anointing oil from there.

QUESTION: Who came to FRISON from Moscow?
ANSWER: ... priest Potapy Uniyadsky, he handed a bishop vestment to FRISON ...

QUESTION: Where did Neve hand you money for FRISON? Who else was present then?
ANSWER: The money was handed in the French church without strangers present.

QUESTION: What do you know about FRISON's meetings with foreign representatives in the USSR?
ANSWER: I am aware of just one case, FRISON told me about that. This fall he left to Kerch to see an official of the Italian Embassy Qualarello who spent his vacation at his relatives residing there.

Pages 11-14

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg)
27 October 1935

QUESTION: How many times did Plekhanova come from Moscow to see FRISON ...?
ANSWER: ... Plekhanova came twice ... she did not hand FRISON any papers ... FRISON delivered a letter to Neve through her ... Mikhalev ...

QUESTION: ... Did FRISON send letters to Neve with you?
ANSWER: During my first trip to Moscow, I handed one to Neve in person ...

QUESTION: Why did you conceal this fact before?
ANSWER: I forgot that case.

QUESTION: You are telling lies. When interrogated on 26 October you were straight asked ... your answer is a confirmation of your insincerity. Are you intending to give sincere depositions to the investigation?
ANSWER: I promise ... but have to say that I really forgot that case ...

QUESTION: The investigation is not satisfied with your answer. You are getting out of replying clearly and honestly as for why you were concealing delivery of the letter to Neve.
ANSWER: I have already explained the matter and cannot give a different answer.

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg)
22 November 1935

QUESTION: Since what year have you been living along with FRISON, Alexander son of Johann?

ANSWER: Continuously since 1916.

QUESTION: So you know all acquaintances of FRISON since then?

ANSWER: Yes, I knew those who visited his flat.

QUESTION: Name FRISON's close acquaintances both living abroad and in the USSR.

ANSWER: ... Living abroad – Siniagyn, Catholic priest ... Wiesen, Catholic priest ... Pedro Kassanelli, Italian subject ... Mafini, Italian ... cannot recall other names ... those living in the USSR – Similidi, former Greek consul ... Slovinsky, physician ... Lilikovich, Pole, medical attendant ... other Italians ... Anatoly Chirkin ... Basiuk, former organ player ...

QUESTION: Before your own arrest, did you inform any of FRISON's acquaintance of his arrest?

ANSWER: I did inform about that to my mother Frison, Rosalia living in Cherson with her son Johann Frison, nobody else.

QUESTION: After the arrest of FRISON, what documents were delivered by you and to whom?

ANSWER: I state flatly that I never delivered any documents or papers to anybody after FRISON's arrest.

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg)
26 November 1935

QUESTION: As FRISON, Alexander son of Johann deposed, there were valuables hidden in the church. What was hidden there and where exactly?

ANSWER: As FRISON said, he hid golden things in the organ-pipes – a cross, ring and a star. Besides that, I believe 1,000 Roubles in soviet bills and about 100 Dollars were hidden there as well. I have to say that I knowingly took

a part of values out of there, exactly the money and the star and gave that for keeping to my acquaintance Sophia Melnikov ... I did not tell her exactly what was in that packet and just asked her to hide it ... Melnikov, Sophia was the only person I met in the church and, knowing her for a long time I trusted her.

QUESTION: Also, American dollars and Britain pounds were found buried. From where were these gotten?

ANSWER: ... Dollars were brought from Moscow (I believe from d'Erbini), ... Kappes brought some dollars when he visited Simferopol in 1925 ... As for the Britain pounds, that was sent in 1921 by a Catholic mission which carried out its activity in Crimea on giving relief to those in need.

Pages 20-21back

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg)
28 November 1935

QUESTION: Besides the money, what else did you give Melnikova to hide? ... From where were those items brought? ...

ANSWER: Beads, crosses, paper icons and prayer-books ... I did not want them to stay in the church after my uncle's arrest ... I think one nun brought those to FRISON from Neve ...

QUESTION: Did you get instructions from FRISON as for the re-hiding of the valuables? ...

ANSWER: No ...

QUESTION: Did Melnikova get any instructions from FRISON? When did she perform them?

ANSWER: ... I just know that she was a chairwoman of the church council and so associated with FRISON as a pastor.

Pages 22-23back

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg)
25 December 1935

QUESTION: Do you know that there is a "Rosarium Society" at the church in Simferopol? Name the members of this society.

ANSWER: Yes I know. This society was set up before FRISON came to Simferopol. I know many of its members but by sight only, no names.

QUESTION: Who of them and others used the printed issue of “The Most Saint Virgin’s Rosary”?

ANSWER: I did not see that anyone had this book in their hands.

QUESTION: Did FRISON read this book during masses in the church?

ANSWER: I do not assume that, because a divine service in the church is allowed to be held only in Polish and German, while the “Rosary” mentioned is written in Russian.

QUESTION: Then, for what purpose was that kept in the church?

ANSWER: I do not know. I think that it was kept there as it was gotten from Neve. The books seem to have been given to FRISON in the church since I did not see them at home.

Pages 24-25back

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg)
24 December 1935

QUESTION: How many times did you leave for Sevastopol and with what and whose instructions? ... Who of FRISON’s and your acquaintances work at the railway transport?

ANSWER: I did once in 1933 or 1934 on uncle Alexander son of Johann FRISON’s instructions as for delivery of money to pastor Gudaitis ... 800 or 1,000 Roubles, perhaps from funds that FRISON got from Neve ... I did not stay in Sevastopol then ... In Simferopol I know a Polish woman, her name is Mashevsky and her husband works at the railways ... she visited me once about 6 - 7 years ago ...

Pages 26-27back

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg)
8 February 1936

QUESTION: Besides Melnikova, to who else did you deliver Alexander son of Johann FRISON’s valuables and documents after his arrest to be hidden?

ANSWER: Never did that.

QUESTION: You are telling lies. The investigation is aware of others ... Do you confirm that?

ANSWER: I disclaim it flatly.

QUESTION: ... to Joseph Wendel residing in Simferopol. Do you acknowledge that or deny?

ANSWER: I deny it.

QUESTION: When searching Joseph Wendel's flat some silver articles have been found which, as Wendel and his wife state, were given to them by you to hide. What can you tell on this matter?

ANSWER: It is not true.

QUESTION: Did Catharina Braksmeier come to you from Kerch after Alexander son of Johann FRISON's arrest?

ANSWER: No.

QUESTION: Did you inform Catharina Braksmeier or her husband of FRISON's arrest?

ANSWER: During my arrest I asked Nonitsky to inform my sister Catharina Braksmeier about my arrest.

QUESTION: What valuables and documents were sent to Braksmeier in Kerch after FRISON's arrest?

ANSWER: Nothing.

QUESTION: What of FRISON's things belonging to FRISON are kept in Kerch and at whom exactly?

ANSWER: When moving from Kerch to Simferopol a piano was left at Italian subject Logoluso Paskuale. Perhaps my sister Catharina Braksmeier removed it to herself.

Pages 28-28back

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg)
20 February 1936

QUESTION: The investigation has established that after Alexander FRISON's arrest you forwarded some of his things to Anton Godselich's flat. List them.

ANSWER: I brought nothing to Anton Godselich, after FRISON's arrest I just called on him along with Melnikova and Basiuk to check the church property according to inventory available at the church council's files.

QUESTION: What valuables did you hide in the church yard?

ANSWER: I hid nothing there.

QUESTION: When searching Anton Godselich we have found 15 silver Roubles that you buried near the church wall. Are you still continuing to deny?

ANSWER: I can recollect now, that after FRISON's arrest I asked Godselich's wife to hide 7 silver Roubles, I believe, but I did not bury that, nor do I know who did.

QUESTION: To who else did you gave valuables to keep?

ANSWER: Nobody else.

QUESTION: It is established that your sister Catharina Braksmeier wrote letters to you, which were addressed to different places. Through whom you did get correspondence from her?

ANSWER: I got letters from Braksmeier by post mainly. Neither I nor my uncle used other addresses.

QUESTION: When was your uncle FRISON supposed to move to Odessa?

ANSWER: I believe the issue regarding his transfer to work in Odessa was considered in 1928.

QUESTION: What things were sent by you to Odessa then and where exactly to?

ANSWER: In 1928, we sent there several boxes with books and other items. They were addressed to my mother residing in khutor Marianovka, Razdelnaya, Odessa. All the items mentioned disappeared then. The books now seem to be kept in the library of the village of Baden. My mother Rosalia Frison is now residing with my sister in Kerch.

QUESTION: Who assisted you when you sent these things?

ANSWER: Joseph Wendel who already worked at the railways then.

Pages 29-32

INTERROGATION RECORD: (accused FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg)

17 March 1936

QUESTION: During the investigation you have been displaying an obvious insincerity. Is not such a behavior of you dictated by your wish to conceal Alexander son of Johann FRISON's anti-soviet activity from the investigation?

ANSWER: I do not understand this question and cannot answer it.

QUESTION: Did you not have a premeditated agreement with FRISON before his arrest that in case of his arrest and you were summoned to the interrogation that you should conceal the facts of his anti-soviet activity which you are aware of?

ANSWER: I can recollect just one case when FRISON warned me against telling about golden items and other values buried. As for other things I cannot recall if we had such an understanding.

QUESTION: The investigation disposes of FRISON's depositions given on 15 March 1936 when he stated that he arranged with you that you should conceal from the investigation his participation in spreading of fascist "aid" among German Catholics as well as his contact in this regard with Lerich known to you, also the fact of governor Tatishtchev's stay in your flat and in general, that when questioned you have to just refuse. Would you not like to give sincere confession now if such a mutual arrangement concerning concealment of FRISON's anti-soviet activity took place?

ANSWER: I do not remember.

QUESTION: Are you aware of facts of FRISON's participation in spreading of German fascist organizations' "aid" and his correspondence on this matter with Lerich and Feist?

ANSWER: I am aware of FRISON's sending to Germany several addresses of Crimean locals on that matter, but I do not know to where they were addressed. I do not know if FRISON was in touch with Feist and Lerich either, nor am I aware of any other activities on spreading fascist "aid". At the same time I have to say that sometimes individual German Catholics and even Lutherans tried to apply to FRISON through me, with requests for sending letters to German relief organizations, but I flatly denied that to them.

QUESTION: Who of German Catholics visited pastor FRISON at his flat in Simferopol?

ANSWER: ... Lerich, Anton Walter with wife, Lukas Braksmeier and his engineer son Joseph, Kellerman, Fuchs ... pastors Warth, Jundkind ... Catholics from German colonies ...

QUESTION: Name German Catholics who came to FRISON from the Crimean districts.

ANSWER: I know many of them by sight but do not remember their names.

QUESTION: From which Catholic colonies did people most often come to visit FRISON?

ANSWER: I did not notice that.

Page 33

RECORD

of announcing completion of preliminary investigation
to the accused. Simferopol. 28 July 1936.

/... Frison, Magdalena daughter of Georg. ... articles 58-10 and 58-11 of the Criminal Code
.../.

Pages 34-36

RECORD OF CONFRONTATION: (accused Frison, Magdalena daughter of Georg and Godselich, A. J.)
26 July 1936

QUESTION TO GODSELICH: Do you confirm your depositions of 19 February 1936 stating that after pastor FRISON's arrest Magdalena Frison buried soviet silver coins in the church yard?

ANSWER: I have to make it more exact. According to my wife, after pastor FRISON's arrest, his niece Magdalena Frison came to us and in my presence started to ask my wife to bury soviet silver Roubles and fifty-Copeck pieces that she had then brought. My wife agreed and buried that and the next day she showed Magdalena Frison the place. I got to know that from my wife about 8 days after my depositions given on 19 February 1936. Before that she concealed this fact from me, only to then tell me that the things were buried by Magdalena Frison herself, so that is why I deposed this way on 19 February.

QUESTION TO FRISON, Magdalena: Is that right?

ANSWER: Yes.

QUESTION TO GODSELICH: Is the second part of your depositions of 19 February true, as for Magdalena's bringing bishop's vestments, cash and other things along with the money then, and that Basiuk and Melnikova were present then?

ANSWER: I did not see if she brought the things mentioned at that time. Have to say that for the first time that the items, with the exception of cash which was always kept in the chest of drawers, were found in my flat when examining the church property in front of me; Basiuk, Magdalena Frison and Melnikova. From the fact that there were no such above things like vestments, books, etc. kept in the drawers before, I concluded that they were brought by Magdalena Frison.

QUESTION TO FRISON, Magdalena: What can you say regarding this?

ANSWER: I state flatly that I did not bring any of the things mentioned except for the money in silver.

QUESTION TO FRISON, Magdalena: When did you entrust Godselich's wife with the re-hiding of the money? Were Melnikova and Basiuk present then?

ANSWER: No. There was just Anton Godselich's wife present then.

QUESTION TO GODSELICH, A.: When questioned on 19 February you stated that when Magdalena Frison brought the things above; you, Basiuk and Melnikova were present. Is that right?

ANSWER: I state once again that I did not see Frison, Magdalena to bring the bishop's vestments, the Gospel book and other things. I just think that it was possible since I did not see them in the chest before; this to find them after pastor FRISON's arrest when examining the church property in the presence of me, Frison Magdalena, Basiuk and Melnikova. My depositions of February 19 are incorrect.

QUESTION TO GODSELICH: Why did you give incorrect depositions then?

ANSWER: I do not know why.

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Started: 17 February 1936

Complete: 28 July 1936

Volume 7

75157- ΦΠ

Pages 107-109

RECORD OF CONFRONTATION: (accused FRISON, Alexander son of Johann and Basiuk K.J.)
4 March 1936

QUESTION TO BOTH ACCUSED: It is known to the investigation that when travelling to the Consulate of Poland in Moscow for an exit visa to Poland Basiuk conversed about that with FRISON before the travel and after it as well. Do you confirm that?

BASIUK's ANSWER: No, I told nothing about that to pastor FRISON.

FRISON's ANSWER: Yes, Basiuk told me about that, both before and after the travel. Before the travel he said he was going to visit the Consulate of Poland regarding his exit to Poland. When he came back, Basiuk told me that one can only leave with a Russian passport.

QUESTION TO BASIUK: Do you confirm this fact?

ANSWER: Yes, I do.

NOTE: Basiuk has confirmed this circumstance after pastor FRISON's nod which was to mean "come on, tell the truth".

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Started: 29 June 1936
Complete: 17 March 1937
Volume **8**

75157-ФП

Pages 1-59

INDICTMENT

of Catholic Church counter-revolutionary organization
in Crimean German colonies /file No. 2128/

o n c h a r g e o f :

FRISON, Alexander son of Johann, GUDAITIS, M. M., FRISON,
Magdalena daughter of Georg and others (23 in total number) – with crimes
specified in articles 58-4, 58-10 and 58-11 of the RSFSR Criminal Code

For some years past, German Catholic colonies in Crimea have been a field of well organized counter-revolutionary action developing in following main directions:

- 1). Strengthening and rousing of Catholic believer's religious fanaticism, their unification and organization of anti-soviet underground on this basis.
- 2). Struggle against the soviet system of cultural and educational work and communist education of working-people, especially those young ...
- 3). Economic undermining of arrangements of the Soviet power by means of direct and indirect treachery, anti-soviet propaganda, agitation and sabotage.
- 4). Ideological influence on German colonists in the spirit of bourgeois nationalism and fascism.
- 5). Reconnaissance espionage activity for foreign states and Vatican.

The facts of affairs are as follows:

During the period of 1925 - 1929 in the Catholic colonies of Bulganak, Turash, Ashaga-Dzhamin, Sultan-Bazar, Rosental and others that there were religious leaflets and calendars printed on hectograph and typewriter to be illegally issued and spread as a substitute for religious manuals. The clergy from ambos of Catholic churches called to resolute struggle against godlessness, participation in social and cultural work was qualified as immorality. Pastor Graf of the colony of Rosental and pastor Schonfeld in Alexandrovka threatened the believers with renunciation of church for such an "immorality" and demanded from parents a proper influence upon young people.

Illegal circles were organized in above villages and in others as well, to study so called “God’s law” ...

Pastor Schonfeld organized underground group “The Christ’s Sisters” consisting of 20 women ...

... pastor Staub ... pastor Warth ... pastor Jungkind ... Catholics Gress, Kelsch, Lang ... Schenner ...

In some cases, led and instigated by Catholic priests kulak counter-revolutionary groups tried to seize a management of collective farms ... Anton Gaschek ...

... connection with unmasked fascist espionage organization taking cover in Moscow and Leningrad Institutes of New Languages ... Meier, Zhirmunsky, Johansen-Gegel ...

It was established in the process of investigation that leading counter-revolutionary part, that of organizer, ideological and practical leadership ... belonged to the Catholic clergy...

Counter-revolutionary activity of the clergy was headed by illegal bishop Alexander FRISON ...

FRISON is a landowner by birth. He graduated from the faculty of theology of Rome University. In Russia, he served as a rector of Saratov theological seminary. Right before the war declaration in 1914 FRISON left to go abroad, visited Berlin to be transported back on a “Zeppelin” this along with a group of German officers.

After the war was declared, FRISON came back to Russia calling in on the way at Rome. In 1918 FRISON was transferred from Saratov to Kerch, in 1925 – appointed to Simferopol. In 1926 – secretly travelled to Moscow to see Pope’s legate d’Erbini, who arrived from abroad to illegally ordain FRISON bishop.

Thus, in the guise of a regular Catholic priest FRISON heading a church in Simferopol, now an illegal Catholic bishop lived and worked there since 1926 holding a post of apostolic administrator of the southern part of the Tiraspol diocese, spiritual head of all Catholics living in Crimea and Odessa, Nikolayev, Cherson, Melitopol, Mariupol, Rostov and Taganrog regions with all the rest of Catholic pastors being subordinate to him directly.

A search of FRISON’s house has given wide material to the investigation to become a good ground for documentary disclosure of all the systems of counter-revolutionary organization and activities of Catholic clergy in Crimea.

FRISON had a number of recesses ...

... 1,818 dollars found ... gold and silver of the church plate he stole ... religious literature issued abroad, items of religious worship, bishop’s vestments – according to his own confession... all brought to the USSR by illegal means ...

... strategic military maps ... call-signs of Vatican radio-stations ... radio parts ... letters and addresses in various languages ...

It is established by the investigation with Alexander FRISON’s own depositions that:

1). FRISON was not only aware of all counter-revolutionary activities carried out by Catholic clergy and the kulaks in German Catholic colonies but FRISON took an active and a leading part in that himself ...

Besides Warth, FRISON also named Beisler, Feist, ... and other participants of counter-revolutionary organizations which carried out their activities in German colonies, ...

2). FRISON headed and led the anti-soviet campaign of fascist “aid” deployed in German Catholic colonies, with being known that he personally resorted to that “aid” as well ...

FRISON also acknowledges that he gave advice as for “what should be written” to get an “aid” ...

3). FRISON was a head and organizer of a complex system of getting and spreading of materials for extensive counter-revolutionary propaganda work to be carried out by himself personally and his closest assistants i.e. Catholic priests and kulak elements in German colonies as well.

Activity headed by FRISON was carried out by the Catholic clergy in the spirit of following tasks:

- a). discredit of the Soviet power and its arrangements;
- b). propaganda of fascist ideas;
- c). education of German Catholics and instilling into their consciousness belief in short duration of the Soviet power and necessity of united efforts for its overthrow which is inevitable consequence of firm devotion of German Catholics to religion and readiness to actively fight for it.

To realize that above, FRISON has chosen three basic ways:

- a). ideological influence directly and through other Catholic priests on German Catholics during conversations, illegal meetings, confessions etc. which is confirmed by mentioned excerpts from depositions of FRISON and others;
- b). broadcasting from abroad;
- c). spreading and interpretation of illegal religious literature having masked anti-soviet contents.

FRISON has assembled an illegal short-wave radio set for himself ... two others were given to other participants of a counter-revolutionary organization as means of propaganda ... An illegal radio set at FRISON’s flat was installed on direct written instructions of Vatican secret representative in the USSR a foreign embassy official Neve specially to receive counter-revolutionary programs of Pope in Rome ...

... “The Most Saint Virgin’s Rosary” ... its anti-soviet content is craftily veiled with merely religious text. The booklet calls Catholics living in the USSR to unite pending the death of “present system” ...

4). FRISON organized, headed and carried out counter-revolutionary activities in German Catholic colonies of Crimea on the instructions and under the guidance of some foreign states having their embassies and representatives in the USSR, he is a secret agent of Vatican not separating his church policy of the Catholicism militant from that of violent fight against the Bolshevism and the Soviet power in the USSR, took leading parts in intelligence and espionage work within the territory of his diocese, got considerable fees from foreign states and Vatican for his all-round counter-revolutionary activities and paid that out to other Catholic priests.

It is seen from FRISON's depositions and other documents that professional spy Kappes ... recommended FRISON to be ordained bishop ... Having started to Moscow FRISON sent an agreed telegram to Kappes – “going on a health center business” ...

... FRISON got 600 dollars total from d'Erbini ...

On the instructions of Pope's legate bishop d'Erbini, regular communication was established between FRISON and bishop Neve ...

... Graf ... Metzger ... Jews in Crimea ... close relations with Nicolaus Schneider, famous leader of a White Guard punitive detachment ...

Fascist cells took place in next Crimean Catholic colonies: Tsarequichy (Telman district), Rosental (Karasubasar), Alexandrovka (Telman), Ashaga-Dzhamin (Saksk), Akatai (Bick-Onlar), Turash (Ak-Mechet), Sultan-Bazar (Bick-Onlar), Karamin (Kolai), Meshen (Telman), Simferopol.

Members of the cells mentioned:

Tsarequichy – A. Gashek ... F. Neubauer ... M. Markel ... A. Hirsch ... J. Gabiger ... V. Provets ... F. Schlinger ... A. Neubauer ... F. Vendolsky ... A. Gashek ... (led by pastor Warth).

Karamin – P. Feist ... F. Fauth ... F. Schenner ... J. Hauck ... (first led by pastor Jungkind, then Warth).

Alatai – J. Erler ... G. Kelsch ... A. Duck ... L. Bub ... J. Hagelman.

Dzhamin – M. Feist ... E. Feist and others exiled as dekulakized (led by FRISON).

Meshen – P. Bub ... F. Bader ... P. Heck (led by Warth, Jungkind, FRISON).

Turash – R. Rukgaber ... A. Fitterer ... A. Ehnes, others exiled (led by FRISON).

Sultan-Bazar – J. Benz ... J. Minich, others escaped (led by Nold, and FRISON).

Rosental – A. Kress ... J. Kelsch ... W. Eisenbraun ... A. Kelsch ... A. Kelsch ... A. Bosch ... A. Lang ... B. Horner ... M. Fauth ... P. Fauth ... others exiled in 1930 - 1931 (led by Graf, then FRISON until 1935 through head of the church council Eisenbraun).

Simferopol – F. Schneider ... Lukas Braksmeier ... Lerich ... A. Walter ... Magdalena Frison ... S. Melnikova ... K. Basiuk ... A. Fuchs ... A. Shimkus ... A. Godselich ...

... 23 people are made answerable on this case ...

Regarding Frison, Magdalena the accused ... Despite her utter insincerity during questionings, it is absolutely established that she was an active accessory to FRISON's counter-revolutionary activity carrying out primary secret tasks on contacting illegal Vatican representative Neve and head of counter-revolutionary cell in Sevastopol the individual Gudaitis ... she performed duties of a secret courier ... Moreover she was aware of all secret places of FRISON and assisted him in keeping in his recesses ...

On the grounds of that said above those below **ARE ACCUSED** :

I. FRISON, Alexander son of Johann – born in 1875, native of Baden, Odessa ... illegal Catholic bishop, education – higher, disfranchised, in 1923 convicted in court for misappropriation of church property ... of :

1). Ideological and practical leadership of a counter-revolutionary fascist organization of Catholic Church in Crimea having for an object to undermine the Soviet power and give active armed support to fascism in case of war against the Soviet Union.

2). Being a head and inspirer of a counter-revolutionary organization, has created counter-revolutionary fascist cells in German colonies ... and directly led their counter-revolutionary activity.

3). ... conducted an anti-soviet nationalistic agitation, called German Catholics ...

4). Being a citizen of the USSR, in 1920 - 1922 illegally performed functions of a foreign state Consulate agent.

5). In 1925 and later, maintained contact with Catholic priest Kappes knowing that when abroad Kappes established a connection with white émigré and fascist circles on the matter of German Catholics' emigration abroad and rendering relief owing to foreign sources ... supplied Kappes with information about political and economic state ... received foreign currency ...

6). In 1927 - 1928 established illegal contact with Pope's legate d'Erbini who illegally ordained him bishop in Moscow, received 350 dollars from d'Erbini ... established links with bishop Neve ...

7). Upon establishing links with Neve until 1935 FRISON received from him through secret couriers:

a). 10,500 Roubles and 1,100 dollars ... from that paid up to 5,000 Roubles to his closest assistants ...

b). counter-revolutionary literature ... devotional articles ... spread that among the believers ...

c). Vatican special purpose call-signs ... tried to illegally install a short-wave radio set.

8). Along with Warth illegally assembled and spread radio sets with the purpose of propaganda of fascist ideas ...

9). Used contacts with white émigré Feist ... for spreading of aid from abroad and received some of that for himself ...

10). Had contact with an official of foreign embassy through whom he obtained literature illegally which was forwarded from abroad to the USSR.

11). Being a leader of a counter-revolutionary organization, held illegal meetings with local heads of counter-revolutionary cells.

12). Sanctioned carrying out collection of information falsely defining the land question in German colonies for delivery to a foreign embassy, pursuing an aim to:

- a) Impelled a foreign state embassy to meddle in the USSR internal affairs and
- b) excited national dissention and anti-Semitic attitude of mind in German colonies.

13). ... sent to Neve tendentious information about political and economic state of some regions of the USSR.

14). To conceal his crimes, FRISON arranged a secret address and corresponded through specially recruited people, –

i.e. in crimes specified in articles 58-4, 58-10 and 58-11 of the RSFSR Criminal Code.

ON THE WHOLE PLEADED GUILTY.

II. GUDAITIS, MATTHAUS SON OF MATTHAUS – ...

III. FRISON, MAGDALENA DAUGHTER OF GEORG –

... born 1897 ... Baden, Odessa, housewife, from kulaks, education – elementary, maid, disfranchised ... O F :

1). Being a member of the Catholic Church counter-revolutionary organization and took an active part in it.

2). Took part in illegal meetings ...

3). Was a courier for the organization ...

4). Was Alexander son of Johann FRISON's accomplice ...

5). After Alexander FRISON's arrest re-hid his things ...

6). Was aware of illegal making and spreading of radio sets ... , –

i.e. in crimes specified in articles 58-10 and 58-11 of the RSFSR Criminal Code.

PLEADED GUILTY.

IV. GODSELICH ...

...

XXIII. HAUCK ...

According to that above, the file No 2128 on charge of those mentioned is supposed to be forwarded to the Prosecutor of Crimean ASSR on the NKVD special cases.

R E F E R E N C E

1). The accused on the case are kept under arrest in:

FRISON, Alexander son of Johann – a special block at the UNKVD (since 15 October 1935).

FRISON, Magdalena dau. of Georg – at Simferopol prison (since 26 October 1935).

...

SENTENCE

On 11 – 17 March 1937 in the town of Simferopol a Special Board of Central Court of Crimea consisting of chairman Zaitsev and members Yakovlev and Liagalov, with secretary Fedoseeva in its close meeting considered a criminal case on charge of

- 1). FRISON, Alexander son of Johann – born in 1875, ...
- 2). GUDAITIS ...
- 3). FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg – born in 1897, ...
- 4 – 21) Others
- 22). HAUCK ...

all with crimes specified in articles 58-10, 58-11 of the RSFSR Criminal Code and Godselich, Alexander son of Anton with crimes specified in articles 58-10...17 of the RSFSR Criminal Code.

It is established by materials of the preliminary investigation and the inquest that defendants FRISON, Alexander and Gudaitis being hostilely set against the USSR political system, during a number of years carried out counter-revolutionary activities. With the aim of strengthening of that, when performing religious rites in the villages of Crimean ASSR, FRISON inveigled former kulaks into a counter-revolutionary organization so they, on his instructions, locally carried out their counter-revolutionary activities directed against the Soviet power's measures.

For conducting counter-revolutionary activities accused FRISON involved the following – ... Frison, Magdalena, ... held “meetings” and set tasks – derangement of collective farm system, rendering assistance to a foreign state in case of war against the USSR ... initiated sending letters to bourgeois states with slanderous contents about a situation in the USSR, for what most of the accused received “aid” from abroad. Conducted separately counter-revolutionary work of each defendant, as established at the inquest, manifested itself in the next

–

1). Accused FRISON, Alexander:

- 1). In 1925-1926 met Kappes twice and informed him about political and economic state in the USSR ...
- 2). In 1926 had a meeting with d'Erbini who arrived in Moscow from abroad ... set contact with Neve ... regularly sent information to d'Erbini through Neve ...
- 3). In 1933-1934 sent accused Magdalena Frison with letters ... Magdalena .Frison received 2,500 Roubles and counter-revolutionary literature for FRISON, Alexander.
- 4). ... received funds to conduct counter-revolutionary work ...
- 5). When visiting Crimean villages in 1930-1932, carried out counter-revolutionary activities

...

PLEADED GUILTY ...

3). Accused FRISON, Magdalena:

1). In 1933-1934 performed Alexander FRISON's errands ... participated in a counter-revolutionary group ... took part in meetings held at Anton Godselich's flat ...

PLEADED GUILTY ...

22). Accused ...

On the grounds of that said above and following articles 319, 320 of the RSFSR Legal Procedure Code the court

H A S S E N T E N C E D :

1). STEPOCHKIN, F. S. – acquit ...

2). GODSELICH, Anton A., and 3). MINICH, J. F. – to 1.5 years of imprisonment each

...

4). MELNIKOVA, S. X., and 5). FEIST, E. G. – to 3 years of imprisonment each ...

6). GODSELICH, A. J., and 7). WENDEL, J. J. – to 6 years of imprisonment each ...

8). BASIUK, K. I., 9). FAUTH, P. G., 10). FEIST, M. N., 11). BUB, P. P.,

12). HAGELMAN, J. K., 13). BADER, F. P., 14). HAUCK, J. J., 15). FITTERER, A.

A.,... and 16). HECK, P. P. – to 7 years of imprisonment each ...

17). **FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg**, 18). RUKGABER, R. G., 19). EHNES,

A.

J., and 20). NEUBAUER, P. A. – to 8 years of imprisonment each ...

21). GUDAITIS, M. M. – to 10 years of imprisonment ...

22). **FRISON, Alexander son of Johann** – to capital punishment –

DEATH BY SHOOTING

with confiscation of all property belonging to him personally.

The sentence can be appealed during 72 hours since handing its copies to the convicts ...

/Sealed and signed/

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“APPROVED”

Deputy Prosecutor of Crimean ASSR,

3rd class state councilor /Z.D. Tesak/

26 June 1991

RESOLUTION

in respect of **FRISON, Magdalena dau. Georg**
according to the criminal case /archival №. 4670/

Full name – **FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg**

Birth date – 1897

Birth place – Baden, Odessa

Place of work and position before arrest – (arrested on 26 October 1935) – housewife

Residence before arrest – Apt. 1, 24/14 Gorky Street, Simferopol

Party membership – non-party

When, by what organ convicted /repressed/, what articles of the Criminal Code, in what pronounced guilty, changes on the case if any – 11-17 March 1937 sentenced by a Special Board of Central Court of Crimea to 8 years of imprisonment and 5-year disfranchisement (articles 58-10, 58-11 of the RSFSR Criminal Code). Charged with the “performance of assignments of a counter-revolutionary team on spreading of slanderous literature”. On 15 April 1937 the sentence was remained valid by resolution of the RSFSR Central Court Special Board.

Information about the repressed or his/her relatives – none.

Effect of article 1 of the UkrSSR Law “About exoneration of victims of political repressions in Ukraine” of 17 April 1991 applies to

FRISON, Magdalena daughter of Georg.

Head of investigation department
of the UkrSSR UKGB for Crimean ASSR,
lieutenant-colonel

/G. A. Koval/

Senior assistant of Crimean ASSR prosecutor
on supervision over investigations in organs
of state security, senior councilor of justice

/N. S. Zmeikina/

Pages 523-523back

“APPROVED”

Deputy Prosecutor of Crimean ASSR,
3rd class state councilor */Z.D. Tesak/*
26 June 1991

RESOLUTION

in respect of **FRISON, Alexander son of Johann**
according to the criminal case /archival №. 4670/

Full name – **FRISON, Alexander son of Johann**

Birth date – 1875

Birth place – Baden, Odessa

Place of work and position before arrest – (arrested on 10 October 1935) – priest
(bishop) of Simferopol Catholic church

Residence before arrest – 24/14 Gorky Street, Simferopol

Party membership – non-party

When, by what organ convicted /repressed/, what articles of the Criminal Code, in what pronounced guilty, changes on the case if any – 11-17 March 1937 sentenced by a Special Board of Central Court of Crimea to capital punishment – death by shooting with confiscation of property (articles 58-4, 58-11 of the RSFSR Criminal Code). Charged with “carrying out of counter-revolutionary activities directed at the Soviet power’s measures, spreading of counter-revolutionary literature among the population”.

Information about the repressed or his/her relatives – none.

Effect of article 1 of the UkrSSR Law “About exoneration of victims of political repressions in Ukraine” of 17 April 1991 applies to

FRISON, Alexander son of Johann.

Head of investigation department
of the UkrSSR UKGB for Crimean ASSR,
lieutenant-colonel

/G. A. Koval/

Senior assistant of Crimean ASSR prosecutor
on supervision over investigations in state
security organs, senior councilor of justice

/N. S. Zmeikina/



FRISON, A. - J. (executed 20 June 1937)



FRISON, Magdalena - G.